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OPINION METER
This week's poll:

Do you believe the impeachment proceedings against Gov. Benigno Fitial should be revived in January?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

ASIA

The garment factory in Bangladesh had been making clothes for global retailers. ➤ PAGE 23

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EGYPTIAN Activists warn that Morsi's actions threaten a new revolution. ➤ PAGE 24

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Gotye's "Somebody I Used to Know" is Spotify's top song of the year. ➤ PAGE 28

PSS pays $1.4M employee contributions to Fund. PAGE 2
Kilili elected to Whip position for Region II. PAGE 8

'Air Papaya' eyes role as NMI carrier

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The owner of at least six hotels in Guam and the CNMI will be launching next year a new airline called "Air Papaya" that they hope will become a CNMI carrier, with initial flights to and from Saipan, Guam, and major cities in China and Japan, officials said.

Sen. Juan Ayuyu (Ind-Rota) and JMSH LLC vice president Jae Ong separately confirmed yesterday the planned launching of Air Papaya, which they said will bring over 260,000 passengers to the tourism-based CNMI economy.

See AIR PAPAYA on Page 4

IT&E opens hotline for PH consulate in Guam

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Filipinos in the CNMI will now have a chance to call the Philippine Consulate General in Agana without paying for long distance charges.

IT&E announced yesterday that it has activated a local landline number—682-2222—that would be directed to the Guam consulate. Calls to this number would be free of charge for IT&E subscribers on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Officials of the phone company and the consulate welcomed this new development, which comes almost a month after the closure of the Philippine Consulate General on Saipan.

Rose Soledad, IT&E regional controller, said in an interview that calling up their assigned number would be seamlessly connected to the Guam consulate, which took over the consular responsibilities in the Northern Marianas.

"We just want to provide service to

See IT&E on Page 4

Historic landing begins Forager Fury 2012

A Boeing 747-400 aircraft is unloaded at Tinian International Airport on Nov. 28 during Exercise Forager Fury 2012. This was the first 747 to land on Tinian and brought gear and equipment vital for Marine Aircraft Group 12's execution of the exercise.
U.S. MARINE CORPS/LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK

By SGT. JUSTIN M. PACK
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

TINIAN—Exercise Forager Fury 2012 officially began Nov. 28 as a Boeing 747-400 aircraft made history by being the first 747 to land on the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Island of Tinian.

The aircraft brought 160,000 pounds of equipment and gear which are vital for Marine Aircraft Group 12's execution of the exercise.

"We needed to get all this equipment down here; fuel bladders, arresting gear, tents and everything we need to run the airfield for our MAG-12 fixed wing aviation while also supporting Navy helicopters," said Major Matthew Halbert, the airfield operations company commander and Tinian officer in charge for Marine Wing Support Squadron 171, MAG-12, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "The airlift proved to be a great asset and the landing is a unique thing here; it proves a 747 can come into Tinian and showed everybody what you can do with this airfield."

RELATED NEWS
➤ MAG-12 back on Tinian for Forager Fury 2012. PAGE 17

Forager Fury is a MAG-12 training exercise that will integrate Marine Air Ground Task Force-like functions with heavy emphasis on tactical aviation and aviation ground support in order to further develop a distributed, expeditionary capability within the Mariana Island Range Complex.

Any questions about the durability and size of the runway were answered as the 747 rolled down the taxiway under a setting sun and a full moon.

"The runway was pretty much the same length as [Marine Corps Air Sta-

See HISTORIC on Page 4

Local

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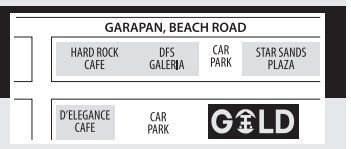

PSS pays $1.4M employee contributions to the Fund

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Public School System, through acting finance director George Palican, yesterday made a payment of $1.4 million to the NMI Retirement Fund, minutes before the 5pm closing of the business operation of the pension agency.

The decision to fulfill the obligation was reached after yesterday's 45-minute emergency closed-door meeting of the Board of Education's fiscal and personnel affairs committee.

The Fund disclosed this week that PSS has failed to remit the employee contributions of its personnel to the pension system in fiscal year 2012 amounting to $1.436 million. This was among the reasons cited for the suspension of the issuance of refund checks to Fund members, along with the outstanding contributions of other autonomous agencies and departments.

BOE chair Tanya King and board member Herman T. Guerrero were mum after the closed-door meeting.

Sources revealed that the "decision to pay" was reached after yesterday's leadership team presentation in the executive session. The $1.4 million, *Saipan Tribune* learned, was sourced from the interest of the PSS' general obligation bond.

Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D, was off island yesterday. Acting COE Glenn Muña did not return this reporter's call for comments.

Saipan Tribune learned that upon the return of the commissioner, she is expected to initiate "conversation" with the Fitial administration on the matter.

It was earlier disclosed that the administration owes PSS approximately $7 million for failing to meet the U.S. Department of Education's maintenance-of-effort requirement.

It was in 2009 when USDOE awarded the CNMI $44 million under the state fiscal stabilization fund. Of this amount, $32.4 million was given to PSS. Under this federal award, there is a condition set that the education system must receive a specific amount of the overall budget of the CNMI government.

According to the Fund, besides the $1.4 million unremitted employee contributions, PSS also continues to refuse to remit its employer contributions reaching approximately $34.1 million. Other agencies, it was learned, also failed to remit employer contributions to the tune of approximately $20 million.

Fund trustee *ad litem* Joseph C. Razzano told pension members Tuesday that with the ongoing fiscal challenges at the pension agency, the Fund cannot comply with Public Law 17-82, which authorizes members to elect to terminate their contributions to the program without separating from government service.

PL 17-82 provides that Class I and Class II members of the Fund's defined benefit plan may elect to voluntarily terminate membership in the Fund. The law also directs that any employee who elects to terminate membership shall receive his/her contribution with regular interest. Out of the over 1,700 members who filed for refund applications since Sept. 17, only 94 have so far received their checks.

Maratita declines heading House's health committee

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Rep. Janet Maratita (Ind-Saipan) "graciously declined" yesterday the offer for her to chair the Committee on Health and Welfare in the 18th House of Representatives, a decision that incoming Speaker Joe Deleon Guerrero (IR-Saipan) said he respects.

Maratita said she would like to give an opportunity instead to other new members to head the committee—representatives-elect Tony Agulto or J.P. Sablan.

"Why not? I think they deserve it," she told reporters in an interview at her office. She said there are no hard feelings, and this won't in any way affect her relationship with her colleagues in the House. She also wishes everyone in the new leadership well.

Deleon Guerrero said the Health and Welfare Committee will be chaired by Agulto.

During last week's caucus, incoming members of the 18th House leadership elected officers. They picked Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (IR-Saipan) to become the next vice speaker, a post that Maratita earlier wanted to hold.

With or without chairmanship of any committee, Maratita believes she is "part of the leadership of the people, and I will continue to serve the people. I am more than ever committed to serve the peoples' interest."

She reiterated that she was elected to serve the people, not the leadership, not any political party or any other interest group.

Maratita is part of the incoming 16-member supermajority in the 20-member House.

She is one of the co-authors of a defeated resolution impeaching Gov. Benigno R. Fitial for 16 allegations of corruption, felony, and neglect of duty. The new leadership will be re-introducing the impeachment resolution in January. Maratita also sued the governor and others for signing a sole-source $190.8 million diesel power purchase agreement, one of the issues in the impeachment resolution.

The 18th Legislature will be sworn into office on Jan. 14. Both the incoming House and Senate have already chosen their officers. In the Senate, the new president will be Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), who would become lieutenant governor if the governor is impeached and convicted.

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NMC's Hart opposes PSS' K-16 proposal

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas College president Sharon Y. Hart, Ph.D, is opposed to the Public School System's proposal to restructure the existing educational system in the Commonwealth because, according to her, several components need to work in order to implement a pre-school to 16th grade program.

The CNMI educational system is currently separately handled by two autonomous agencies along with their boards. PSS and the Board of Education administer the Head Start to high school programs, while the Northern Marianas College and its Board of Regents oversee postsecondary education on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

According to Hart, the State Higher Education Executive Officers, or SHEEO, earlier conducted a major study on student success on the P-16 systems.

She said what they found in the study is that achieving the educational goals of the next generation will require policymakers and educators to view education as an integrated system, from birth through adulthood.

The study showed that each of the individual elements of the educational system must be excellent in its own right, and each of them must work effectively with the others toward the system's goal—the highest possible levels of student learning through postsecondary education, and the capacity to continue learning successfully throughout life.

Yet, despite many promising innovations among states, no state in the U.S. has a fully developed, well-integrated educational system extending from birth through postsecondary education.

According to SHEEO, while governance and structure matter, a common vision and commitment are far more important than the mechanics and structure of governance in a state. What is important is that states make progress toward an integrated well-functioning system. The study found that in those states where it does work, leadership and relationships among leaders have been more important in generating real progress, not changing the formal structure.

Hart said the key components of an integrated educational system can be described and elaborated in many ways. SHEEO's work identified several essential components and Hart said she would agree it is these components that are required in the CNMI.

» Hart cites factors required to ensure success of plan in CNMI

Hart

The first of these components is early outreach, which motivates parents and students to have high educational aspirations and shows them what is required for postsecondary educational achievement; second, curriculum and assessment systems that specify the knowledge and skills that students need and help teachers and their students assess progress; high quality teaching that is essential for enabling students to achieve at higher levels; student financial assistance, which is increasingly essential as a means to enable and encourage participation in postsecondary education; and data and accountability systems that allow educators and policymakers to monitor progress and guide their efforts to promote and enable greater achievement.

Hart agrees that PSS and NMC need to strengthen the alignment between the two agencies' curriculum framework, standards, and assessment activities.

"I believe that the focus that should unify the college and PSS should be student performance and success…We have already purposefully engaged PSS in increasing our collaborative efforts by forming an ad-hoc committee composed of representatives from the PSS State Board of Education and the NMC Board of Regents," said Hart, adding that sharing research and performance data and teaming up in organizing activities like Start Smart seminars are also important.

Hart also emphasized that, although NMC has suspended academic programs on Rota and Tinian due to accreditation issues, it is still very much committed to helping expand educational opportunities to students on those islands.

NMC, she said, has been steadily boosting the online options available at NMC so Rota and Tinian students can enroll in academic courses without having to leave their islands. This is in addition to other options that NMC recently made available, including non-degree certificate programs that are available online.

Hart also pointed out that the inclusion of the CNMI in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education has opened up many opportunities for all CNMI residents. In addition to being able to take advantage of reduced tuition rates, CNMI students can also avail of many online courses that are offered by WICHE institutions.

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Loving what he does keeps Martin Nievera youthful

» Nievera top-bills tonight's free concert at Hopwood

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Philippine Concert King Martin Nievera, right, is joined by twin sister Vicky as they perform an excerpt from the song *After All*, the theme song to the soap opera *A Beautiful Affair*, during a press briefing at the executive suite lobby of the Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan yesterday.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

He has been in the music industry for decades, but Martin Nievera has remained younger-looking through the years, still crooning his way to the hearts of his doting fans.

"Love what you do and do what you love, and you'll stay young," said Nievera, 50, at the executive lobby of the Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan yesterday where a press conference for tonight's free concert was held.

Dressed in a casual getup, Nievera admits that being able to travel frequently and not having any vices also helps him maintain his looks.

"My motto is to always look forward to something," he said, adding that doing so helps keep a person motivated and less stressed out.

The Philippine Concert King said he loves to be back on Saipan for the fourth time, this time with his twin sister Vicky. Having grown up in Hawaii, the siblings have grown fond of the "island feel."

"If I could build a house overlooking the beautiful ocean and watch the sunset every single day, I would love it... I seem to fit here," said the older of the twins.

The Nieveras, together with composer Louie Ocampo, will perform onstage at 8pm tonight for the Martin Nievera Live concert sponsored by Tan Holdings at the Hopwood Jr. High School Field. Mariana High School's Rhythm and Harmony Glee Club will be sharing the stage with the visiting performers.

Martin Nievera said the free concert is Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan's way of giving back to his island hometown. Nievera is pleased how Tan, the godfather of his 6-year-old son, would always invite him to topbill the concert.

"He also has such love for the people I perform for, mostly the Filipino people. Most of the people who work for his companies are Filipinos. He trusts them, he loves them, he loves the people of Saipan. For a piece of paradise that has been so nice to him, this is his way of giving back," said Nievera.

Audiences in tonight's concert can look forward to "a little bit of everything," including Nievera's timeless hits or songs that a lot of people grew up with and Christmas songs to help people get in the feel of the holidays.

Nievera also said that he will perform theme songs from soap operas or *teleseryes* like *A Beautiful Affair, Lorenzo's Time*, and *Walang Hanggan*, which are all aired by The Filipino Channel in the CNMI.

These songs, he said, are included in his brand new album called 3D, which signifies his three-decade-old career.

Nievera has a concert lined up at the Suncoast Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas on Dec. 15 and 16, and a planned powerhouse concert tentatively called "Fourplay" featuring ex-wife Pops Fernandez, Regine Velasquez, and Ogie Alcasid.

Nievera revealed that his favorite songs to perform are *You Are My Song* and *Say That You Love Me* because of their melody and range.

Nievera, who wants to become a "Filipino blessing" throughout the world, advised Filipinos on Saipan to continue to do well on the island, which many of them have called home over the years.

"I want the world to know how great Filipinos are. I'm very sensitive on how I conduct myself in other places and I expect everyone else to do the same. Represent your people well because your work and responsibilities are here," he said.

HISTORIC

From Page 1

tion] Iwakuni's," said Peter Pecenicic, the captain of the airplane who has 21 years of experience flying 747s. "This airport could land jumbo jets and not have a problem."

As the plane was being unloaded, some members of the local Tinian community gathered along the fence line to get a better look at the massive airplane parked on their runway.

"MAG-12 is always anxious to train on Tinian because the people of Tinian are very welcoming, they are very appreciative, and very accommodating," said Major Jonathan Kehr, the logistics officer for MAG-12. "These people are always very interested in what the Marine Corps is doing on their island."

The goal of Forager Fury, which is scheduled to continue until Dec. 19, is to allow MAG-12 to demonstrate their ability to generate significant combat power in an expeditionary environment and also build relationships with the local community.

IT&E

From Page 1

the Filipinos in the CNMI by giving them a number where they can call the Guam consulate without incurring additional costs. It's our way of helping our *kababayans* in light of the closure of the Saipan consulate," she said.

Using the number, *Saipan Tribune* yesterday called Guam Consul General Bayani V. Mangibin who said that they are very pleased since the IT&E management first approached them about this plan.

"Through this medium, Filipinos in the CNMI would no longer be financially burdened to call the Guam consulate for their consular needs," he said.

Mangibin said they expect to receive more phone calls from the Commonwealth with the activation of the IT&E number.

Mangibin and Consul Gary Q. Auxilian separately noted that the Guam consulate has already been receiving a lot of calls from Filipinos based on all three islands in the CNMI even before IT&E set up a local number.

Auxilian disclosed that their office receives an average of 10 calls per day from the CNMI, adding that the number of calls they receive from the Northern Marianas exceeded those from Filipinos in Guam.

Phone inquiries were mainly about requirements and procedures in passport renewal applications, marriage and other consular documents, including schedule of upcoming mobile consular services on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

"That's why we really appreciate IT&E's effort to make the Guam consulate more accessible to Filipinos in the CNMI," added Auxilian.

The two officials encouraged Filipinos in the Commonwealth to add them on Facebook, Agana Pcg, or visit their website at www.philippinesguam.org to find out the latest policies and procedures affecting Filipino workers or to learn more about consular concerns.

Both Internet sites are updated regularly by Vice Consul Ma. Paz Cortes and communication officer Allan Tangayan.

Auxilian said their consulate website shows the list of 66 Filipino nationals from the CNMI whose passport renewal applications on Saipan up to Oct. 31 are already with the Guam consulate.

He said these passport holders should mail their old passport and a self-addressed mailing pouch so the Guam consulate can send them their new passport. They can also give a family member or friend going to Guam an authorization letter so the consulate can hand them their passport.

"We just like to assure our *kababayans* in the CNMI not to lose optimism even when we at the Guam consulate are miles away from them. While it is true that we are not physically there, we remain committed to assist and support them with their needs to the best of our ability," added Mangibin.

AIR PAPAYA

From Page 1

"This new airline will be home-based here on Saipan a few months from now," Ayuyu said in an interview at his office.

Hee Kyun Cho, president of JMSH LLC, and Ong, along with Ayuyu, met with Gov. Benigno R. Fitial on Wednesday to further discuss the airline.

Fitial and JMSH LLC had planned a news briefing this weekend, but this has been moved to a later date.

JMSH LLC owns Alupang Beach Tower, Tumon Horizon Condominiums, Mai'ana Airport Plaza Hotel, Holiday Resort Guam and the Garden Villa in Guam, as well as Rota Resort and Country Club on Rota. In September, JMSH LLC unveiled a planned $170 million casino and hotel on Rota.

Ayuyu, chairman of the Rota Legislative Delegation, said JMSH plans expansion of the airline service to Rota.

"Everything is in the works. The aircraft is being painted right now. It will have three Airbus 300 series, which can carry 179 passengers each. They wanted to fly as early as January," Ayuyu said. As of yesterday, there was no telling whether the launching will be that early.

Ayuyu said the problem right now is that in the CNMI, "we don't have the number of rooms available; that is our major obstacle with the airline. Where do we put those passengers?"

"Mr. Ong and others are working with hotels as to how we can resolve the issue of room shortage," said Ayuyu, the incoming Senate floor leader. "The new airline proposal will benefit the CNMI economically in terms of more tourists coming in. It will support other businesses, not only the hotels."

Ong and Ayuyu said more details about Air Papaya will be disseminated in December.

NMC Honor Society inducts 15 new members

NMC Phi Theta Kappa Fall 2012 inductees, members, and adviser Larry Lee have their picture taken following their recent induction ceremony.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Northern Marianas College Beta Lambda Psi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society celebrated the induction of 15 new members into the Society on Nov. 10. Family, friends, NMC president emeritus Agnes McPhetres, Associated Students of NMC president Alex Shen, faculty, and PTK members joined in the festivities at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's Cabaret to honor the new inductees.

In order to qualify for membership in Phi Theta Kappa, students must maintain a 3.5 cumulative grade point average, in addition to various community service and leadership activities. The 13 newest full members include students from the business, hospitality management, education, natural resource management, nursing, and liberal arts majors. They are Roy Alegre, Jatanna Cabrera, Evonnie Camacho, Lauren Chadwick, Jane Correa, Marie Del Carmen, Ericka Dela Rosa, Leonisa Laoyan, Angela Prado, Josifynn (Peachy) Rasa, Chenlong (Alex) Shen, Maria Takai, and Carina Train. Also welcomed into the chapter were two new provisional members, Jenny Lynn Cabrera and Miracle Villones.

The induction ceremony was carried out by the current PTK officers president Stacey Demapan, vice president Olivia Leung, recording secretary Beatrice Mesngon, membership secretary Harrison Smith, public relations officer Derek Leung, treasurer Geraldine Hofschneider, and faculty adviser Larry Lee.

McPhetres was the keynote speaker for the event, and she inspired the audience with a very motivating keynote address. The formal induction ceremony was followed by a buffet dinner.

An international organization, Phi Theta Kappa has recognized academic excellence, leadership, and service in two-year colleges since 1918. It is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 1.5 million members and 1,200 chapters located in the 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada, and Germany. Phi Theta Kappa's mission is two-fold: (1) to recognize and encourage the academic achievement of two-year college students; and (2) to provide opportunities for individual growth and development through participation in honors, leadership, service, and fellowship programming.

For additional information about the NMC chapter, its membership, or activities, contact chapter president Demapan, or adviser Lee. ***(PR)***

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Man gets 2-year probation for lying in passport application

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona slapped a 24-month probation sentence on Geoffrey Kim Cabrera Wednesday noon for lying in his passport application.

Cabrera was indicted for submitting a false statement to obtain a new U.S. passport from the U.S. Department of State. In his application on Feb. 12, 2010, he falsely stated that his most recently issued U.S. passport had been lost while travel aboard a small vessel. It was later found out that Cabrera had surrendered his passport to the CNMI Superior Court on Dec. 23, 2009, as a condition of his pretrial release in a criminal case on the same year.

Manglona imposed several terms and conditions in Cabrera's 24-month probation. The defendant was also ordered to pay a fine of $2,000 immediately after sentencing on Nov. 28 and a special assessment fee of $100.

During his probation, Cabrera is recommended to participate in a location monitoring program (home detention) under the direction of the U.S. Probation Office for a term of six months. He shall make copayments for the program at a rate to be determined by the U.S. Probation Office.

Manglona also ordered Cabrera not to commit another federal, state, or local crime and shall not unlawfully use or possess a controlled substance. Because Cabrera's history indicates a low risk to use a controlled substance, the drug mandatory testing was waived by the federal court.

Cabrera is also prohibited from possessing a firearm or other dangerous weapons, shall submit to the collection of a DNA sample at the direction of the U.S. Probation Office, and he shall refrain from excessive use of alcohol. The federal court also ordered the defendant to perform 100 hours of community service.

Cabrera has 14 days to file an appeal if he wishes to do so. The federal court also ordered the dismissal of count II with prejudice against the defendant.

Cabrera, a resident of Tinian, earlier signed a plea deal with the U.S. government, which later recommended to the court that he receive a sentence at the lowest end of the guidelines imprisonment range deemed applicable by the court.

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From left, Chuuk governor's representative Jayson Robert, Guam governor's representative Joanne Brown, Pohnpei Gov. John Ehsa, FSM President Emanuel Mori, MCES chair and Marshall Islands President Christopher Loeak, CNMI Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, Yap Gov. Sebastian Anefal, Kosrae governor's representative Sweetyona Tulensru, and Palau president's representative Minister Johnny Gibbons pose for the official photo of the 18th Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit being held in Majuro, Marshall Islands.

Inos attends 18th Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit

MAJURO, Marshall Islands—Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos joined other chief executives from throughout Micronesia for the 18th Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit being hosted by the government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands at their International Conference Center.

Following the opening ceremonies and the change of command, each of the chief executives delivered their remarks to the delegates and participants. All the heads of state of the region highlighted the importance of sustaining the regional collaboration that has been established by way of the Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit.

In his remarks, Inos reiterated that the Micronesian region continues to face several critical challenges in today's competitive global economy. He noted that the remote location of the islands is one of the biggest barriers local governments struggle with in critical areas such as economic development, climate change, renewable energy and adequate health care. Inos specifically expounded on the issue of climate change, a critical concern that carries a great deal of consequence if island nations simply take it for granted.

"It is important for us to put forward a call for action against large carbon emission producing nations to curb contributions to climate change and its impact on our island communities," said Inos. "As first-hand witnesses to the effects of climate change, we must agree that it is happening and is expected to have a significant impact on coral reef systems."

With fairly small infrastructure and populations, island nations have always been insignificant contributors to carbon emissions, yet it is the islands that are the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change, Inos said.

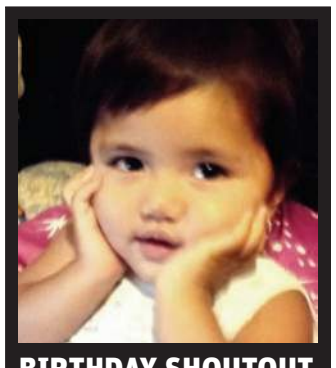
"We must take this threat seriously and move toward policies and safeguards that will curb the increase in emissions, and ultimately, result in a significant decrease of greenhouse gases in our atmosphere and oceans," added Inos.

The two-day summit will also feature committee presentations on important issues such as health care, the Micronesia Challenge project, invasive species, energy, workforce development, and other special reports from the jurisdiction. ***(Office of the Governor)***

Saipan student lands on Dean's List

SAVANNAH, GA—Amelia Hudkins of Saipan has been named to the Dean's List at the Savannah College of Art and Design for fall quarter 2012. Full-time undergraduate students who earn a grade point average of 3.5 or above for the quarter receive recognition on the Dean's List.

The Savannah College of Art and Design is a private, nonprofit, accredited institution conferring bachelor's and master's degrees to prepare talented students for professional careers. SCAD offers degrees in more than 40 areas of study, as well as minors in nearly 60 disciplines in Savannah and Atlanta, Georgia; in Hong Kong; in Lacoste, France; and online through SCAD eLearning. For more information, visit scad.edu. ***(PR)***



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday to our wonderful princess, Samirah Nayeli Douglas Cabrera, who is celebrating her birthday today, Nov. 30! May God bless you and hope your special day brings you all that your heart desires! Wishing you a day full of pleasant surprises. Greetings coming out from Dad, Mom, and your entire friends and families.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kilili elected to Whip position for Region II

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) was elected as a Whip for Region II of the Democratic Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives yesterday.

With 21 members Region II is the second largest of the Caucus's 12 regions, and includes Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, Education and the Workforce Committee Ranking Member George Miller, and Vice Chairman of the Democratic National Committee Mike Honda.

The Region encompasses all of Northern California, Alaska, Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

"It is an honor for the Northern Marianas to have our Member of Congress chosen to be a Whip in the Democratic Caucus," said Sablan. "Even though we cannot vote on legislation on the floor of the House, it will be my responsibility to help the Democratic leadership count its votes among Region II members and to provide other Democrats with any information they may need to make their voting decisions.

"I think it is important for the Northern Marianas, even though we are not a state, even though we are small in population, to remember that our congressman has the same responsibility as any member to participate fully in the workings of the U.S. Congress and to make known the views of his constituents on matters of national policy."

Each Region of the Democratic Caucus has two Whips. Sablan will share his duties with Rep. Jerry McNerney, who represents California's 11th Congressional District.

Sablan

Regional Whips are elected at the beginning of each Congress and may serve for two terms, or four years altogether.

Hawaii Rep. Mazie Hirono, who was elected to the U.S. Senate in November, previously held the Region II Whip position Sablan now fills.

Party Whips have two primary responsibilities, mobilizing votes and information dissemination. They "whip up" support for their party's position on specific legislation, help ensure that members reach the floor in time to cast their vote, and inform members of the party position as votes are in progress.

As a conduit for information, Whips provide a liaison between the members and the party leadership. This can include making sure that members have information packets or notices pertaining to upcoming legislation. Whips can also help party leadership know what members are thinking regarding specific issues, so that legislation can be drafted in a way that gathers as much support from the rank-and-file as possible. ***(PR)***

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Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

November 30, 2001

New public high school unfolds

Community members gathered yesterday to witness another milestone unfold in the history of public education, delighting at the sight of the $5.6 million freshly completed Kagman High School facility. Dignitaries led by Governor Pedro P. Tenorio described the campus unveiling as another symbol of progress, not only in the district of Kagman but for the entire CNMI as well. Saipan's second public high school, which will officially open its doors on January 15, 2002, has been built to host close to 500 students. It houses approximately 27 academic classrooms and rooms designed to host the vocational education and JROTC programs.

OPA takes hands off in Marpi bidding

The Public Auditor's Office has denied the appeal made by the Division of Procurement & Supply for the OPA to take over the decision-making process in the Marpi Solid Waste Facility project, saying it is not within the purview of the OPA to do so. In a decision released Wednesday, Public Auditor Michael S. Sablan said the OPA has the limited responsibility of determining whether a solicitation or proposed award violates the law or regulation or not. "OPA's role under the CNMI Procurement Regulations is to adjudicate procurement appeals and render decisions. OPA's function is, therefore, limited to weighing the issues raised in the appeal and determining its merits," said Sablan.

November 30, 2002

'Spare tourists from thieves'

The Department of Public Safety will step up efforts to curb the rising number of crimes against tourists following the successive incidents of burglary and theft at the Bird Island Lookout Point in Marpi. In a press briefing held yesterday, DPS Commissioner Edward Camacho stressed the need for immediate implementation of additional policing measures at several tourist areas to prevent criminals from preying on foreigners who are visiting far-flung scenic spots. Camacho said that, as part of policing efforts, DPS will soon install surveillance cameras at different tourist areas to monitor suspected individuals who are engaged in illegal activities.

Babauta flies to US with several goals

Gov. Juan N. Babauta takes off for the U.S. mainland today carrying multi-pronged objectives, top-billed by consultations with the federal government on the implementation of the new Homeland Security Act. Flanked by Cabinet officials at his conference room yesterday, the chief executive briefed members of the press and other guests of his itinerary, the first leg of which is Honolulu, where he is set to attend the installation of Hawaii's newly elected and first female Governor, Linda Lingle. "As you know, Hawaii plays an important role in our region and, at times, we turn to Hawaii for education services and for healthcare. In the past, Hawaii has been a partner with Guam, American Samoa and the CNMI in economic development activities," said Babauta.

November 30, 2004

Some 30 retirees 'double dipping'

The NMI Retirement Fund has threatened to cut the pension benefits of some 30 retirees following discovery that they have been "double dipping" into the government's coffers. This refers to retirees who have been re-employed in the government and are getting salary and earning retirement benefits anew while receiving their monthly pensions at the same time. Fund administrator Karl T. Reyes said yesterday that notices were sent to those concerned, prompting these individuals to appeal their cases. He declined to identify these individuals. "It's a case of double dipping. There's plenty of them and some of them had appealed and asked for a hearing," said Reyes.

Feds cites concerns on entry of Chinese tourists

The federal government has expressed some concerns about the CNMI's readiness for the entry of more Chinese tourists, in view of China's decision to grant Approved Destination Status to the Commonwealth. Gov. Juan N. Babauta said he discussed that issue and the CNMI's tourism industry as a whole at length with Department of the Interior assistant deputy secretary for insular areas David Cohen during a recent meeting in Washington D.C. He said he and Cohen both recognize the number of challenges that the CNMI would face in implementing the program.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Bangladesh fire tragedy: Low prices can have high costs

The following editorial appeared in the Kansas City Star *on Tuesday, Nov. 27:*

If accounts from survivors of a deadly garment factory fire over the weekend in Bangladesh are accurate, more than 100 low-wage workers died in large part because of a wanton disregard for their safety.

Workers said managers ordered them back to their machines while a fire alarm was ringing. The building lacked adequate emergency exits, and one that did exist was reportedly locked from the outside. Fire extinguishers apparently were not working.

The deadly fire, which killed at least 112 people outside of the capital city of Dhaka, has implications for U.S. companies. More than 3 million Bangladeshi workers, mostly women, produce garments for major global retailers. The owner of the factory that burned over the weekend has produced goods for Wal-Mart, Ikea and others, according to news reports.

Groups that monitor the garment industry report that more than 500 Bangladeshi workers have died in fires since 2006. Experts say owners openly flout safety measures.

U.S. companies must not continue to tolerate such reckless abuse of workers.

Wal-Mart officials have not said whether the company is currently purchasing goods from Tazreen Fashion, the factory that burned over the weekend, but it has in the past. Wal-Mart inspectors gave the factory a "high-risk" rating after a May 2011 inspection.

Three high-risk ratings in two years would result in a suspension of business. Wal-Mart said it stopped buying from about 50 factories because of fire risks. Still, a two-year grace period seems excessive when human lives are in the balance.

The weekend fire began in a warehouse on the ground floor and spread quickly. About 600 workers were inside. Many were burned beyond recognition; others were fatally injured jumping from windows.

Bangladesh citizens turned out by the thousands after the deaths to protest safety violations. They should not stand alone in their outrage.

U.S. consumers don't want their clothing produced in potential death traps. Retailers must be much more stringent in cracking down on unsafe factories in Bangladesh and elsewhere.

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'Fitialcare': A monstrosity

By JOHN DELROSARIO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

The beastly monstrosity I've coined "Fitialcare"—new power plant deal—approaches households like fiery magma underneath. You know it's coming yet unsure when but you also know that you would see it destroy you in your presence.

How do you translate this new financial monstrosity? It isn't a measure to empower the simple folks at home as much as fueling an already critically numb pain and hardship in abject poverty and misery against households NMI-wide.

Perhaps it's fitting to coin the new power plant deal "Fitialcare." It reminds us of what former Speaker Nancy Pelosi said initially of Obamacare, "Let's approve it now and find out what's in it later." In either case, it's a nightmare all the way around!

We've established "implicit knowledge" by securing and reviewing the contract at face value the derivative being "explicit knowledge" of what it means to our people henceforth. It's the fundamental issue that drained all trust from our people who quiz: Why is the governor making life egregiously harder for us?

To be fair, I've talked to a cross section of people to hear their voice on the recently concluded election. Whether they understand with clarity what's at issue, a lot of them point to the work of the Special Committee on Impeachment.

The committee has unearthed the existence of the Power Plant Agreement. It has consciously unraveled information that was never made public. It has identified the filthy trappings behind it. The pungent deal definitely merits critical review once more. After all, it deals with the livelihood of taxpayers in all its ugly trappings. And it isn't about lower utility rates either but more fees and taxes!

Each child, man, and woman would be paying not less than $40,000 annually for 25 years when the NMI begins paying the Fitialcare debt. It is imperative that the issue is reopened and disposed of from one of two fronts: legislative disposition or recall by the people of these isles.

Just so we're clear: I have no interest blurring an already convoluted issue with masterful spin or rhetorical punt. It's simply a matter of conscience, no more, no less.

Debt defined future generation

The once mysterious contract remains a mystery in the sense that from the outset the governor remains cleverly reticent or mute. Perhaps it's difficult explaining the bloated figure of some $2.3 billion in the power plant contract versus what he originally signed in the amount $190 million.

It's despicable, though, the nerve to saddle future generations with debts during their formative years. Or is this what the governor targeted when he signed the new power plant deal—a legacy of debt, pain, and hardship? Does he really have the authority to mortgage the future of our children without our consent? Does he have the right to permanently block the hopes and dreams of our young people who'll probably never see another break of dawn or sunrise?

It's a no brainer that the magnitude of the contract requires following procurement rules and regulations to secure the best deal for NMI consumers. Yet he still maintains that he hasn't done anything wrong, though he's ignored due diligence in this case. Sir, neither the laws of gravity nor the laws of hermeneutics play favorites in the interpretation of a wrong. If it's wrong, it's wrong! No matter the reasoning method used—induction or deduction—it still doesn't change the fact that it is unconscionably wrong!

Your mysteriously suspect deal is the reality our children will inherit from your administration. For the millennial generation—kids age 18-34—would they be able to pay off student loans, find meaningful jobs at home or plan a family amidst a debt-ridden future or simply move off island to greener pasture? What legacy!

Role of the former AG

Initially, I admired the former AG for staying legal and constitutional in his role, however a political appointee. But he sprayed off all trust when, after his assistant AGs who reviewed and found 71 anomalies in the PPA, he signed the contract anyway. Was it a blind "just this once" gifting to his boss as to ignore the hardship he and the governor have saddled taxpayers for the duration of the 25-year contract? Whatever happened to cool heads?

It would be to our benefit if all 71 faulty findings are explained and published by the OAG so we know what they are and why the entire deal is bad. I can't fathom the former AG affixing his signature in servile fashion when his staff has found 71 problems with it. To say I'm disappointed is definitely an understatement. Why did the former AG ignore a substantive issue he should have guarded full press court like he's done in the past?

Obviously, this explains the governor's "fast and vicious" role to ensure the former AG wasn't served the penal summons. Would the former AG ever return to answer questions before the court of law on the PPA so he absolves himself once and for all? Would the governor facilitate his return or would he conveniently leave it be so the former AG doesn't kick up maggots from under the carpet?

In simpler terms, the voters have definitely repudiated the PPA contract in all its form and substance by soundly relegating the Ben

See FITIALCARE on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Made in USA

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.

I'm taking a great American road trip for vacation. So for Black Friday I decided to get in the spirit of things. Kith and kin awakened before dawn and went shopping. Doors opened at 5am. Ugh.

Well, since I'm in an "Americana" frame of mind for vacation, venturing over open highways, listening to Merle Haggard and George Jones on the stereo, and getting coffee in truck stops where the waitresses call you "honey," I decided to keep an eye open for American-made goods for our Black Friday foray.

I'll mention a couple items that might interest *Saipan Tribune* readers.

After all, I like writing about cool stuff. By contrast, there's so much negativity in the media these days you could get a nervous breakdown from reading it. It's bah-humbug season all year around. Well, no thanks.

Anyway, as for the shopping gig, I'm not a chauvinist about the "made in" thing. The last car I bought was German. The last airplane I got qualified in was French. My computer was made in China, my watch in Japan, my shirts in Hong Kong, my jacket in Scotland, my jeans in Mexico, and my calculator in Thailand. It's an international market, and I just float along where it takes me.

One "made in the USA" item I found on Black Friday was a new twist on an old product I've written about before, something ideal for fending off the darkness in Saipan's blackouts.

The old product is the Mini Maglite, a small metal flashlight that takes a pair of AA-batteries. I started using these in the Navy. They weren't issue but I bought my own. I now keep them in my house, in my travel bag, in my flight case, in my tool kit, in my astronomy kit, and in all my cars.

Before I jump from old to new, I'll admit I'm a little suspicious of technology. So when the high-tech model of Mini Maglite hit the market, brandishing LED (light emitting diode) technology and a "multi-mode electronic switch," I cold-shouldered it. I was perfectly happy with my old-school models. High-tech gimmickry didn't appeal to me.

But my wife pointed out that I grind through a lot of AA batteries every year. They're not cheap. My wife also noticed the energy-saving nature of the new technology. The way I read the data, the new LED model gets anywhere from twice to six times the battery life as the old model.

So we bought a couple of the new LED models. Verdict? A thumbs-up. The beam is a lot brighter than the old style. It also has a dimmer, power-saver mode. I was unmoved by its blinking mode (it has two of them, actually) until I realized that it would make a good roadside warning beacon for late-night car breakdowns.

In "Saipan blackout" mode, just like the old style Mini Maglite, it can be converted into an electronic candle by removing the flashlight head and using it as a stand for the light. The LED model is so bright I can't even look directly at the bulb. I don't know if the battery cost is cheaper than burning candles, but you can't burn down the house with a flashlight.

Prices on these things vary wildly; they seem to range up or down from around $22. My wife found a super-duper price on Black Friday, which is why she does all the thinking; me, I just stand around and look confused.

The next item won't have universal appeal in this office-bound age, but for Saipan's outdoorsy set, I'll note that the iconic "Buck 110" pocket knife is still made in the USA. This has been a mainstay for farmers and ranchers for as long as I can remember. The prices I saw ranged from $35 on to $50 in the stores we visited.

It's not just popular with land-lubbers, but also on ships. When I worked aboard merchant vessels the Buck 110 was the blade of choice for everyone from the lowliest deck-hand up to the captain himself.

Of course, mainland U.S. prices don't always have a lot of relevance on Saipan. It's a benefit to buy locally, with local support. But on the other hand, it would be useless to write about something without some mention of prices. So I'm sort of stuck in the middle. Hey, nothing's perfect.

Having filled up the shopping bags with American-made goodies, we steered for the open road again. Black Friday was very red, white, and blue, which befits a great American road trip.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fund actions surrounding PL 17-82 puzzling

I certainly can't be the only active member of the Retirement Fund who views the recent halt to the withdrawal refunds by the Retirement Fund as puzzling?

Yes, we understand that PSS has a remittance shortfall for 2012 of $1.4 million of its employees' personal contributions to the Retirement Fund. And yes, we understand that the law does not state that only the contributions remitted to the Fund be returned. But to halt the refund of all active employee contributions, after nearly 100 individuals have been paid out 25 percent of their contributions makes little sense.

First of all, the unremitted amount from PSS reflects a bit over 1 percent of the total amount of funds set aside for active employee members. This then doesn't pose an inability by the Fund to mete out the initial 25 percent to all members who've requested withdrawal and have been approved. It also doesn't prevent the Fund from further refunding the remainder of the contributions received, which by their own acknowledgement is 100 percent, with the exception of a small amount by PSS. Require that PSS remit those funds within the 90-day period, or refund only what they have remitted until such time as the remainder of their due remittance is received. It's not that complicated.

The premise that paying out PSS employees only the amounts they have remitted would be violating the law is questionable, when the law is already willfully being violated by the failure to remit the first 25 percent within 30 days of the approval to terminate membership, and after nearly 100 members have been refunded. That a "second class" of active employee members is being created by the issue of unremitted PSS contributions is only partly correct, three classes are actually being created… the third being those who've already been refunded 25 percent of their contributions per the law. To have stopped the payout of refunds, after paying out the first batch of 100 individuals, and postponing or dashing in some cases particular individual investment plans of active members was not and is not the best address of this matter. It is also an invitation to further lawsuits.

These are the lives and livelihoods of people depending on the ability to reinvest these funds, their funds, immediately. We will be dependent on a retirement plan that will require many more years of work, and reflect a significantly smaller subsistence payout. We need to invest those monies, our monies, not in February, or June, or August…now.

Robert H. Hunter
Garapan, Saipan

Government jobs for outgoing officials?

My jaw is still hurting from laughing so hard while reading the stories of the outgoing House members not offered government jobs come January.

Seriously, what makes you people think you deserve a job after all you've (not) done while in office. Especially when you consider the dismal economic state the Commonwealth is currently suffering, mostly due to your lack of work while on the government clock. Please enlighten me as to what positive contributions were made by you while in office. I seriously want to know.

What do you think would happen to the governor himself if he were to hire any of you? The governor is a politician. Nothing more, nothing less. He's got to consider what is going to happen to him come January before he can even commit one iota of thought for your futures when his own is in jeopardy!

What really cracks me up is the fact that you think you'd get employment in the private sector. The private sector voted you all out of office.

What saddens me is that I considered some of you as friends. You all know who you are when I use that term "friend." You have totally and irrevocably lost any respect I may have had for you. It's very personal to me because at one time, you did have my respect. I considered you my friends. I might've even voted for you during the election previous to this last one.

Seriously, your actions, or lack thereof, have ostracized you in the community. Didn't any of you have a backup plan in the event you were not re-elected? No contingency plan whatsoever?

I'm now thinking as I write this letter that I am sorry for you. Most of this is for your families who must now suffer because of your actions. It's a shame that it came to this. You have no one to blame but yourselves for the quagmire you now find yourselves in.

I am no longer laughing at you and the dilemma you've landed yourselves in. It's a shame that your were led astray with nothing to fall back on. I regret laughing and apologize for doing so but as the saying goes, "You've made your beds and now you must lie in them." I'm paraphrasing because I don't think that's actually how the saying goes but you get the meaning of what I'm trying to say.

I'd like to end this letter with "happy holidays" but it would sound so fictitious and without the true spirit of this holiday season. In all honesty, I'm hoping some good comes out of this. Hopefully you've learned a very valuable lesson that I'd rather not say cause that would be really rubbing your noses in it and that's not my intent. It was at the start of this letter but my conscience will not let me because of your lack of concern of the consequences of your actions.

I end this letter hoping your family endures what your actions have done to them. I pray for them and you, hoping that this sad ending helps you consider your priorities next time you use "your noggins—not your *dagans*."

Michael Geisinger
As Lito, Saipan

A challenge to govt officials

This is for all government officials. I challenge you to check into PSS Central. Through my years with PSS it seems that a bulk of the budget is going to those highly paid positions at PSS Central—highly paid positions that I believe do not meet the educational and years requirement to justify the pay jump. You will also find that the pay jump is such that a bulk of PSS' budget that should go to schools and students are actually going to accommodate these highly paid individuals. You will also find that job titles are being created from favoritism. If I am wrong, then good for PSS because I made an ass of myself but if I am right maybe some justice can be done for those of us who are following the rules to deserve our pay. Someone should take a look at the PSS administration because in recent years, hiring and pay increases have been fishy. Everyone is so in tuned at other government agencies that they should also be concerned on how the budget is being spent because I don't see it being spent on the students that PSS claims it's for. Something for the public and government officials to think about!

Merissa K. Sablan
Koblerville, Saipan

Committed to improvements

While Mr. Mason did not name us specifically, we logically infer that a few of his comments were based on his recent shopping experiences at our store. Our company takes his and every one of our customer's concerns very seriously and has already taken immediate action to help resolve all of these issues.

For 63 years, we have built our success on keeping our customers happy and that means providing exceptional customer service, maintaining competitive prices, carrying high quality products, and keeping a clean shopping environment. We would never intentionally try to engage in fraud or mislead our customers. Clearly, there are some major bumps on the road that have gone unaddressed and we know that our customers should expect more from us.

We remain committed to continue making improvements to our operations so that these and other problems do not occur in the future. We thank Mr. Mason for expressing his concerns that he wrote in Monday's letter to the editor. At the same, time we humbly apologize for his negative shopping experiences at our store. All of our managers are available and eager to hear from any of our valued customer with their comments or concerns. They also may be able to e-mail us at customerservice@joeten.com

Bo Palacios
JC Tenorio Enterprises

FITIALCARE

From Page 10

10 Dwarfs who ignored the public's interest in favor of the governor's polished and fully calibrated deceit and dishonesty.

It's despicably pathetic how he singlehandedly decided to ruin the freedoms and economic future our children. Do they not deserve the benefits of leadership with integrity that moves proactively to protect and nurture their hopes, aspirations, grit and resilience as ordinary young folks searching, via their education and life's experiences, to find decency and dignity in their future? How sad the wind you've ripped your sails!

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

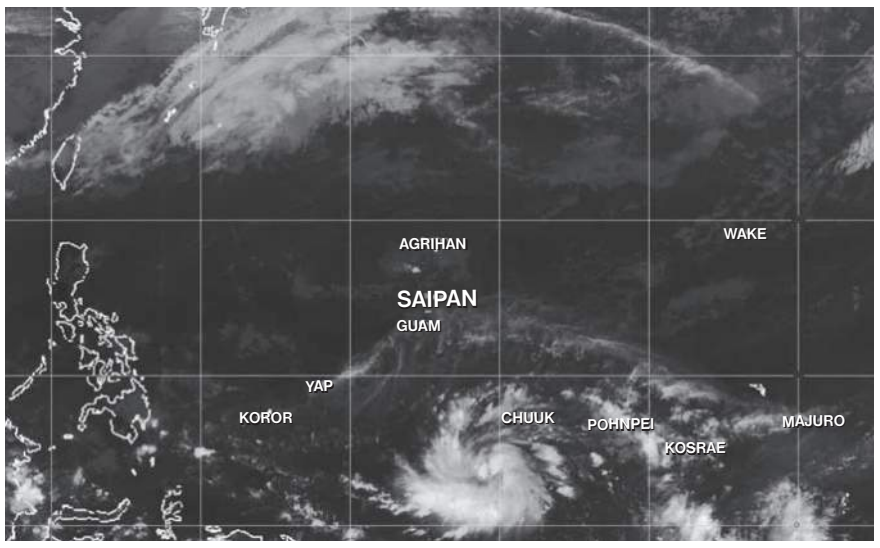
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲86	▼78
Palau	Showers	▲86	▼77
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲90	▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼77
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼77
Majuro	Showers	▲87	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼57
Beijing	Cloudy	▲37	▼21
Hong Kong	Showers	▲74	▼64
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲81	▼69
London	Partly Cloudy	▲39	▼33
Los Angeles	Showers	▲64	▼56
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼77
Melbourne	Rain	▲72	▼61
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲77	▼66
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲41	▼35
Osaka	Sunny	▲50	▼41
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲40	▼35
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲46	▼32
Rome	Showers	▲54	▼45
Salem	Rain	▲55	▼48
San Francisco	Rain	▲62	▼59
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲35	▼24
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲53	▼37
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲52	▼39

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2012

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Bopha (26W) is centered 305 miles southwest of Chuuk at 4N149E and is moving west-southwest at 13 mph with maximum sustained winds of 65 mph. Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are found primarily south of Chuuk within 260 miles of the center. For more information on Tropical SBopha, refer to bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW and by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM. Low-level convergence east of Tropical Storm Bopha is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over Pohnpei and near Kosrae within 100 miles of a line from 9N156E to 5N161E to EQ162E. A trade-wind disturbance is triggering scattered showers east of Majuro between 11N and 5N from 178E to the date line. A cold front curves west-southwestward from east of Wake Island at 19N and the date line to 15N170E then continues as a shear line to end near 12N155E. Cloudiness and scattered showers are found along and up to 150 miles northwest of the shear line from 12N158E to 14N167E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

2:33 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
9:35 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
3:04 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
7:41 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:27 AM	5:45 PM
Saturday	6:27 AM	5:45 PM
Sunday	6:28 AM	5:45 PM
Monday	6:28 AM	5:45 PM
Tuesday	6:29 AM	5:45 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:05 PM	7:29 AM
Saturday	7:55 PM	8:16 AM
Sunday	8:45 PM	9:02 AM
Monday	9:35 PM	9:45 AM
Tuesday	10:25 PM	10:27 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOV. 21, 2012

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:40am	5:30am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:25am	9:15am	Daily
UA5074	11:10am	12:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:40am	Daily
DL297	4:25pm	7:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-PUSAN (BUS)

0Z608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 6, 7
0Z608	3:30am	6:40am	3

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

0Z606	2:10am	6:00am	1
0Z606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z604	3:20pm	7:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU7108	2:50am	5:55am	1, 3, 5

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)

VLK1734	2:00am	8:15am	5 every other week

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

0Z606/701	2:10am	11:15am	1
0Z606/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:20pm	Daily via NRT
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:25pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
0Z604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

0Z606/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	10:30pm	1, 5 via GUM
0Z604/749	3:20pm	11:20pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:05am	7:55am	Daily
UA5073	9:50am	10:40am	Daily
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily

PUSAN (BUS)-SAIPAN

0Z607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 5, 6
0Z607	9:35pm	2:25am+1	2

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

0Z603	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
0Z605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU7107	6:30pm	1:50am+1	2, 4, 7

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

VLADIVOSTOK (VVO)-SAIPAN

VLK1733	8:00pm	12:05am+1	4 every other week

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

0Z704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
DL172/288	8:00am	1:15am+1	Daily via NRT
UA190/5077	10:55am	6:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA702/605	12:10pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/605	12:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	10:55pm	7:55am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:59pm	7:55am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

0Z746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z724/605	1:50pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
0Z724/605	1:50pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5073	11:25pm	10:40am+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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TOHA SUPERMARKET
December Super Sale

7:00AM - 11:00 PM (MON-SUN)

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WE ACCEPT BANK OF GUAM PACIFIC EXPRESS

NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 09, 2012

WE ACCEPT FOOD STAMP

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Reg. $13.50 | Reg. $28.99
$12.99 20lbs | $27.99 50lbs

Chicken Leg Quarter
Reg. $19.99 | Reg. $26.99
$18.99 22lbs | $25.99 33lbs

Whole Chicken
Reg. $40.99
$38.99 30lbs

Pork Spareribs
Reg. $22.99
$21.99 20lbs

Babyribs
Reg. $22.99
$21.99 10lbs

Ichiban
Reg. $10.99
$9.99 CASE

BEVERAGE

Kool-Aid Jammers/ Caprisun

$2.99 BOX

Sunkist

$6.99 CASE

Ruby Kist Orange & Apple Juice

$3.99 64oz.

LOTUS RICE
50lbs.
$26.99
GET (1) FREE
PureFoods
Luncheon Meat

GROCERIES

Ox & Palm Corned Beef

$3.09 11.5 OZ.

Spam All Kinds

$2.39 EA

Black Label Luncheon

$1.79 EA..

Libby's Vienna Sausage

65¢ 5 OZ.

Armour Vienna Sausage

55¢ 5 OZ.

Sunflower Tuna

$1.49 7 OZ.

Beach Cliff Sardines

99¢

Hormel Chili with Beans

$1.69 15 OZ.

Hormel Chili No Beans
$1.89 15 OZ.

Del Monte Whole Corn

99¢ 15 OZ.

Del Monte Whole Kernel Corn
$5.79 106 OZ.

Dinty Moore Beef Stew, Meatball Stew

$1.69 15 OZ.

Campbells Chicken Noodle

89¢ 10 OZ.

Del Monte Spaghetti Sauce (all kinds)

$1.39 26.5oz.

Del Monte Fiesta Fruit Cocktail

$4.99 106 OZ.

Del Monte 100% Pineapple Juice

$1.99 1.36 L

Nissin Cup Noodles

$5.99 CASE

Chorizos

$15.99 3 lbs.

Kruataia Coconut Milk

99¢

Argo Corn Starch

99¢ 1 LB.

Gold Medal Flour

$3.25 37.02 OZ.

Royal Spaghetti Noodle

$2.49 1 kg.

White Sugar 2kg

$2.79 2 KG.

Lotus Rice 5olbs.

$25.99

Vega Shrimps

$5.79 /LB.

Kikkoman Soy Sauce

$4.25 1.6 L.

King Chef Vegetable Oil 5gal

$32.49

Country Lime Lemonade, Tang Orange, Kool-Aid

$7.99

Coffee Mate

$7.99 50 OZ.

Folgers Coffee

$11.99 33.3 OZ.

Maxwell Coffee Mix

$7.99 100CT.

Fresco Vegetable Oil

$9.49 1 GAL.

Wilkins Water

$2.99 6000ML

Rota Water

$5.99 CASE

Ace Butane Gas

$23.50 CASE

PRODUCE

Onion

59¢ LB.

Potato

79¢ LB.

Celo Apple

$3.99 /BAG

Orange

99¢ LB.

Cabbage

99¢ LB.

Korean Pear

$2.99 LB.

Honeydew/ Cantaloupe

99¢ LB.

Garlic

$1.25 5 PCS.

Broccoli

$1.49 LB.

U.S. X-Large Eggs

$2.39 1 DOZ.

FROZEN

Hashbrown

$4.59 20PCS. | $2.29 10PCS.

Bar S Jumbo Franks

$1.19

Millers Sausage

$16.99

Bar S Ham

$18.99 10LBS.

Bar S Bacon

$3.25

Ground Beef

$11.99 5LBS.

Chamorro Sausage

$4.49 10LBS.

Ground Pork

$22.49 10LBS.

Tilapia

$1.19 /LB.

Milk Fish

$1.49 /LB.

Green Shell Mussels

$5.99 2LBS.

Frozen Cut Crab

$6.99

Sea Wave Calamari

$1.89 16oz.

S.C. Frozen Shrimp

$3.59 16oz.

NON-FOOD

Clorox

$3.49 96 OZ.

Purex

$4.49 50 OZ.

Gain Liquid

$6.49 50 OZ.
$10.99 100 OZ.

Gain Powder

$15.99 102 Loads
$16.99 120 Loads

Joy Ultra

$1.49 12.5 OZ.
$6.99 90 OZ.

Dawn Dishwashing Soap

$8.99 90 oz.

Suave Shampoo & Conditioner

2 for $3.00

Head & Shoulders Shampoo

$7.99 23OZ.
2 in 1 w/ Almond oil $4.99

Huggies Big

$18.99 BOX

Luvs Big

$16.99 BOX

Bounty Paper Towel

$19.99 15 Rolls

Charmin Ultra Strong Tissue

$6.99 24 Rolls

Charmin Basic Toilet Paper

12ROLLS $8.29 | 24ROLLS $14.99

Foam Plates

$3.29 50 CT
$7.99 125 CT

FAMILY BAG

Stew Chicken	$5.99
Chicken Leg Qtr	$4.99
Chicken Nuggets	$11.99
Chicken Wings	$12.99
Turkey Tail	$6.99
Mackerel Fish	$5.99
Mackerel Pike	$6.49
Pork Hock	$8.50
Pork Adobo	$9.99
Pork Bellies	$11.99
Pork Chop	$11.99
Pork Spareribs	$6.99
Pork Butt Steak	$9.99
Beef Ribeye	$15.99
Beef Stew	$12.99
Beef Shank	$11.99
Beef Feet	$7.99
Beef Shortribs	$15.99
Ox Tail	$15.99
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HOLLOW BLOCKS (CMU) 4" – $0.65/pc 6" – $0.75/pc 8" – $0.85/pc
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HOLLOW BLOCKS (CMU) 4" – $0.78/pc 6" – $0.88/pc 8" – $0.98/pc
#4 REBAR $830.00/BUNDLE
#3,#5,#6,#7,#8 REBAR $840.00/ST MADE IN KOREA
THIN-SET MORTAR $7.80 | JOINT COMPOUND $21.00 5 GAL.
ELECTRICAL PIPE 1/2" $2.40 | 3/4" $2.90
NEW ARRIVALS OF CERAMIC TILES 12"*12" $0.89/pc · 8"*12" $0.60/pc
CPVC PIPE 1/2" $18.00 · 3/4" $26.00 · 1" $35.00
OTHERS
CEMENT $7.50/BAG
DELIVERY CHARGE TO TINIAN–$3.00/BAG
SEMI-GLOSS INT. & EXT. LATEX $19.50/GAL | $79.99/PAIL
FLAT INT. & EXT. LATEX (PRIMER) $17.50/GAL | $69.50/PAIL
WIRE MESH 7'*50' $73.00
WIRE MESH 7'*100' $136.00
U.S. LUMBER
2X4X20 REGULAR: $7.50
2X4X20 TREATED: $14.50
UTILITY LUMBER REGULAR
2X4X12... $3.95 2X6X14... $7.60
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The rule of law must prevail

I read with some interest an article about the Office on Aging concerning an employee who was given a letter by the secretary of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs informing him that his employment will not be renewed. From bits and pieces of information in the social media, I have been able to put the employee's issue in perspective, from a legal standpoint.

First, the employee is appointed to a civil service position. It is a civil service position because it is not specifically exempted by the CNMI Legislature and is listed in the civil service system's position classification plan. Secondly, the employee occupied his position continuously for over 10 years with satisfactory to exceptional performance. The *man'amko*'s strong support for the employee's continued employment at the Aging Center is the most reliable testament of his performance.

If we take the foregoing information into consideration, the employee obviously has acquired what is known in law as civil service "property interest" for continued employment. The appointing authority is prohibited from ending the employee's employment without just cause and without following the procedures prescribed for such purpose under the CNMI Personnel Service System Rules and Regulations.

Why then did the DCCA secretary issue a letter to the employee informing him of his employment's non-renewal, in violation of the employee's civil service "property right" for continued employment and in violation of the prescribed due process procedures under the civil service system? Some information from the media alleged that his open support for the re-election of U.S. Congressional Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan directly had something to do with the secretary's action. This claim had been corroborated by information from different sources, some from insider sources. If we pursue the issue from this additional angle, there may be a possibility of multiple violations of applicable regulations and laws that may result in liability for the offender.

What happens when an appointing authority knowingly intends to deprive the employee's right to continued employment and to suppress his right under the First Amendment of the U.S and CNMI Constitutions for malicious reasons? The employee definitely has a legal cause of action against the appointing authority for liabilities arising from any consequential pain and suffering, including payment of attorney's fees as may be deemed appropriate by the court. The appointing authority, in this case, will be charged as his individual self and will not be able to hide behind the cloak of qualified immunity.

It will be interesting, though, to see how the Office of Personnel Management will treat this Request for Personnel Action to end the subject employee's employment without just cause and without following the procedures prescribed under the PSSR&R. I hope there is enough competence in that office to recognize that this action is not in compliance with applicable regulations and must be returned for correction.

The bottom line is that any management action that is vindictive and malicious against an employee that did not follow the personnel regulations and laws will be corrected, one way or another. The employee does not need any petition or intervention to keep his job. He only needs the DCCA decision makers to obey the law and the responsible officials reviewing the personnel action requests to enforce compliance with the law. At some point, the rule of law will, and must, prevail.

Caleb Guerrero
Garapan, Saipan

Thank you

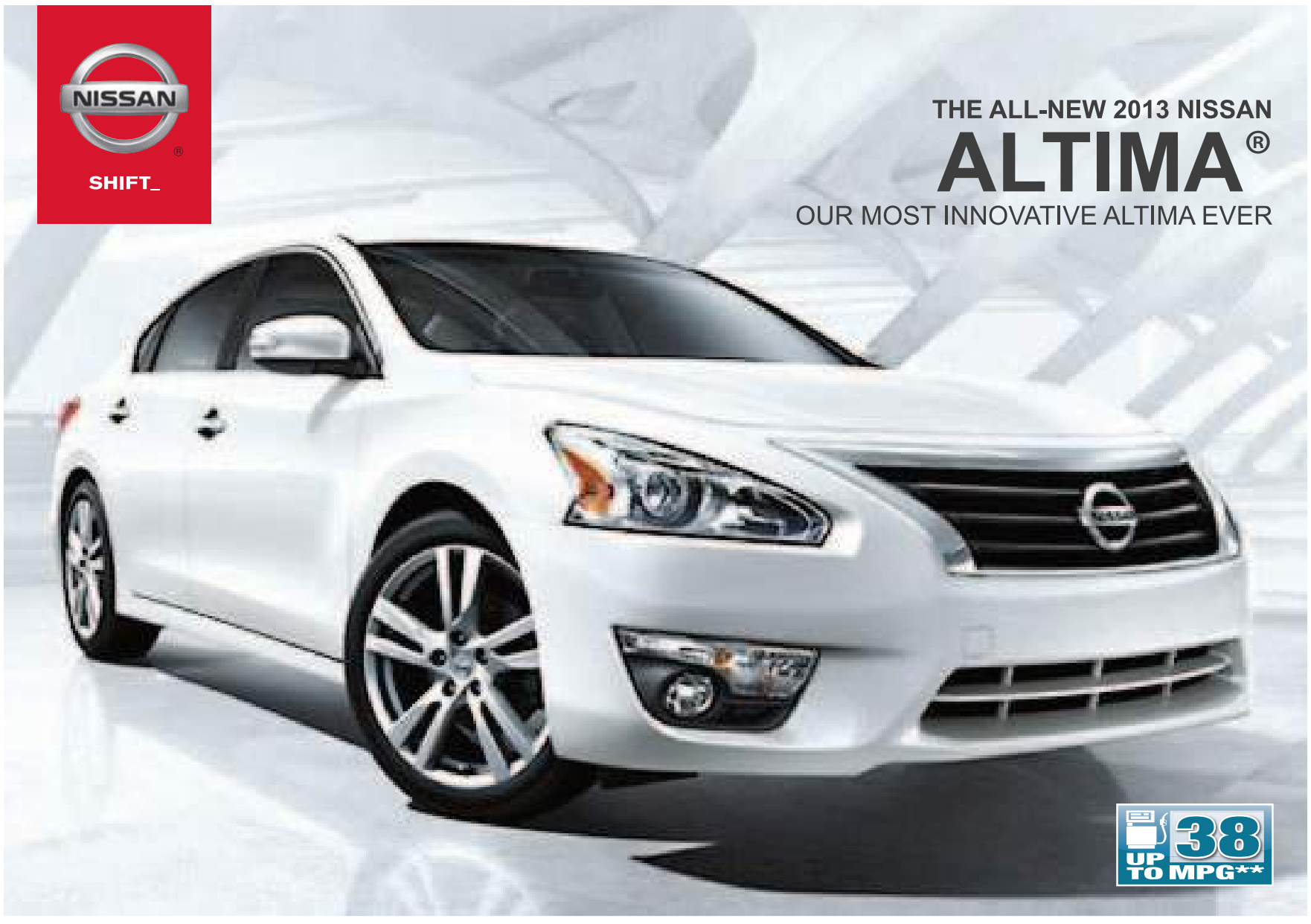
Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation expresses its sincere thanks to the tourists, visitors, and local supporters for visiting our booth at the street market every Thursday. Your support makes a big difference in the lives of others, and we appreciate the opportunity of meeting visitors for the first time and our returning friends. It is always good to see smiles on their faces.

Special thanks to tourists from Japan for sending us donations to help needy families on Saipan and for items to sell at the street market to raise funds for our program. It is a pleasure to experience the spirit of sharing no matter where you are from or the color or your skin. This is true world citizenship.

Your donations are helping children, mothers, and families who are struggling because of hard times on Saipan and poverty in Kenya, the Philippines, and Bangladesh.

Thank you for supporting our work. We are honored to partner with everyone who is willing to share in helping others. Visit us at Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation facebook, www.emptyvesselministry.org, or call our office at 235-2340 or 483-0162.

Rose Smith
Empty Vessel Ministry



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Eat Out for the Environment today

To help preserve our precious natural resources, residents of Saipan are encouraged to eat out today, Nov. 30, 2012, at select restaurants that have agreed to donate a portion of their revenue from that day to the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance.

For this year's event, participating restaurants include Isla Cafe (at the Kanoa Resort), Chambre Restaurant (at the Fiesta Resort), 360 Restaurant, Shenanigan's, and Naked Fish.

"We are encouraging everyone who cares for the environment and who wants to contribute in some way to the preservation of our precious natural resources to eat at one or two of these restaurants for lunch and dinner," said Sam Sablan, executive director for the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance.

The Mariana Islands Nature Alliance is a community-based, nonprofit organization that was formed by a group of people whose dedication and compassion for the environment felt the need to promote and advocate for the protection and restoration of our natural resources in the Commonwealth.

Some of the projects that MINA has been involved in include the Marine Debris Program, the Environmental Teach Camp, Obyan Revegetation Project, the Tasi Watch Program, and other projects.

MINA will use the proceeds from the Eating Out for the Environment event to support and sustain community projects.

To participate, residents are asked to bring their friends and family to eat out at any of the participating restaurants today, Nov. 30, 2012. ***(MINA)***

New schedule for FOA's latest production

Due to conflicting events, the Friends of the Arts has postponed its Christmas play, *A Visit from Saint Nicholas or 'Twas the Night before Christmas*, until Friday, Dec. 7; Saturday, Dec. 8; and Sunday, Dec. 9. Starting times will be 7pm on Friday and Saturday and 3pm on Sunday. The play, written by Lowell Swortzell, will be performed at the MHS Dolphin Theater.

Tickets can be purchased from any FOA board member or by calling Frank Gibson at 287-7476 or e-mailing to flgibson@yahoo.com.

Ticket prices: Adult FOA member, $6; adult non-FOA member, $8; student, $4.

On Sunday, Dec. 8, entrance can be purchased by the donation of cash or canned foods to the Salvation Army, or by the purchase of a ticket. Food and money donations to the Salvation Army will be accepted for each performance. The Friends of the Arts will match the total cash donations. ***(FOA)***

Editor's Note: Parents are being encouraged to read the following to their children to raise their interest, then come see the show as staged by the Friends of the Arts.

'Twas the Night Before Christmas

(or An Account of a Visit from St. Nicholas)

By MAJOR HENRY LIVINGSTON JR. (1748-1828)
(previously believed to be by Clement Clarke Moore)

Last part of a series

He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself;
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread;

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk,
And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose;

He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight,
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!"

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Saipan Soccer School visits Garapan Head Start center

By CLARISSA V. DAIVD
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Young learners at the Joaquina M. Rabauliman Head Start Center showed yesterday that they have what it takes to be future footballers by taking part in fun outdoor activities hosted by the Saipan Soccer School.

Staffers Jershwin Angeles and Mae Ito, along with visiting coaches Jimmy Tang and Jack Wong of the ChelseaFC Soccer School in Hong Kong, took the lead in an hour's worth of games for students from both the morning and afternoon sessions at the center's Garapan location.

Forty-six students under the morning class of teachers Lanelle Okawa, Maryann Mendiola, Kasy Santos, Merilyn Innocenti, Stacy San Nicolas, and Monica Kiyoshi were seen at the campus grounds at 9am kicking balls, mimicking animal sounds and actions, giggling, and laughing as they played various games.

The age-appropriate games were designed to raise awareness among students from age group 3 to 6 years about football and to promote the value of engaging in sports at a young age, said Angeles, who is also a coach at Saipan Soccer School.

Angeles said the school began hosting outdoor activities for the students at the center in December 2011. Since then, they've been interacting with the center's students every last Thursday of the month as part of the school's outreach program for the community.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Saipan Soccer School staff join 46 students, and their teachers at the Joaquina M. Rabauliman Head Start Center for a group photo yesterday following an hour of outdoor games and activities designed to aid in the physical development of the young learners while raising awareness about the sport.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Mae Ito of Saipan Soccer School makes a gesture mimicked by two students at the Joaquina M. Rabauliman Head Start Center in Garapan yesterday morning.

"We're happy to see them all excited, eager to learn, and very much enjoying themselves because they get to play football and have fun, even just for a short period of time," Angeles told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that a Christmas program for the children is already in the works.

Lanelle Okawa, one of the teachers at the center, said that Saipan Soccer School's regular visit is a good opportunity for their young learners to get first-hand soccer training, which also aids in the children's physical development.

"We're really glad our center has the opportunity to have this kind of activity every month. We're very thankful that the Saipan Soccer School puts their time and effort for our students through these fun outdoor games," she added.

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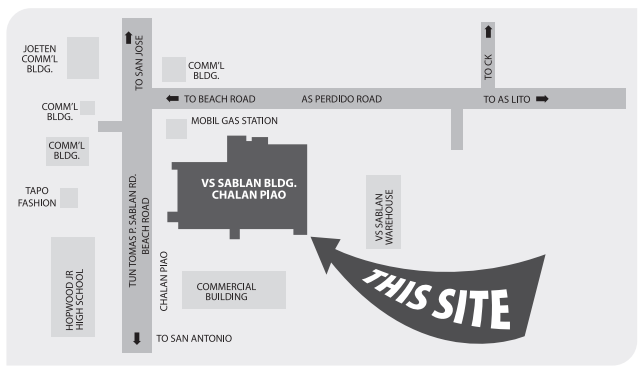

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MAG-12 back on Tinian for Exercise Forager Fury 2012

By LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

A Boeing 747-400 aircraft taxies at Tinian International Airport on Nov. 28 during Exercise Forager Fury 2012. This was the first 747 to land on Tinian and brought gear and equipment vital for Marine Aircraft Group 12's execution of the exercise.
U.S. MARINE CORPS/SGT. JUSTIN PACK

TINIAN—Marine Aircraft Group 12 returned to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island of Tinian for the second time this year, Nov. 28, for exercise Forager Fury2012.

Due to the terrain and location of Tinian, the island has proven itself to be an ideal location for MAG-12 to conduct expeditionary training. With this fact in mind, the majority of Marines that can be found here are made up mostly of aircraft recovery and expeditionary airfield technicians.

The advance party of Marines arrived via flight from a KC-130J Hercules aircraft on Nov. 27. Their equipment, consisting of, fuel bladders, arresting gear, tents, and various other items needed to maintain and expeditionary air field, arrived the following day, delivered by a Boeing 747-400 cargo aircraft. As soon as the aircraft arrived, the unloading process began.

"We started planning for [the exercise] in August, and even before that, we were looking for what we were going to do when we got down here," said Maj. Matthew Halbert, the airfield operations company commander and Tinian officer in charge for Marine Wing Support Squadron-171, MAG-12, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "The event tonight has been smooth, through the MAG, our logistical support, our squadron and our planning and all of the coordination of the MAG aircraft, it's been absolutely smooth."

The people of Tinian have expressed a warm welcome for the Marines and have thanked them for their return and look forward to seeing them again in the future.

"For a long time our people have wanted Marines on the island. We know that the Marines would bring about a great economic opportunity to the people of Tinian," said Ramon Dela Cruz, the mayor of Tinian. "We welcome them and I hope in the future more will come. We encourage all of [the Marines] to come back as often as possible. Our people are pro-military, we will always welcome them and hope they continue to return."

With the efforts of MAG-12 and the support of the people of Tinian, Forager Fury is now in full swing on Tinian, with expeditionary training exercises and community relations events ready to take center stage in the Marianas.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Coastal Resources Management
Caller Box 10007, Behind the Department of Public Safety,
Bureau of Motor Vehicle, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950
Website: www.crm.gov.mp
Tel. (670) 664-8300 • Fax (670) 664-8315

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Coastal Resources Management Office (CRMO) will be holding a public hearing regarding Coastal Permit Application No. SMS-2012-X-061 submitted by 3M Environmental Consulting on behalf of U.S.A. Fanter Corporation for the quarrying operations in Kannat Tabla, Saipan. The project site is an existing pit formerly quarried by the Saipan Mayor's Office and MTDC located on public lands containing a total of 67,000 square meters. The project also includes rock crushing facility and batching plant operations.

The public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, December 18, 2012 at 6:30 pm at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, Saipan. A final notice of this public hearing will be published at a later date.

The public is invited to attend and make oral comments regarding this project. The project file is open for review and comments during business hours from 7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M. Written comments can be submitted to the CRM Office located in Susupe, Saipan immediately behind the Bureau of Motor Vehicle building, or mail to Coastal Resources Management Office, Caller Box 10007 or fax at 664-8315. All written and oral comments received will be made a part of the permit application record, and will be considered in any decision made concerning the proposed project.

Please contact Coastal Resources Management at 664-8300/1 if you have any questions or require further information regarding this project.

/s/RITA C. CHONG-DELA CRUZ
Administrator
Coastal Resources Management

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Business

Obama says he'll do what it takes to avoid cliff

WASHINGTON (AP)—The White House and a key congressional Democrat hinted at fresh concessions on taxes and cuts to Medicare and other government benefit programs Wednesday as bargaining with Republicans lurched ahead to avoid the year-end "fiscal cliff" that threatens to send the economy into a tailspin.

Increasing numbers of rank-and-file Republicans also said they were ready to give ground, a boost for House Speaker John Boehner and other party leaders who say they will agree to higher tax revenues as part of a deal if it also curbs benefit programs as a way to rein in federal deficits. "I'll go anywhere and I'll do whatever it takes to get this done," President Barack Obama said as he sought to build pressure on Republicans to accept his terms—a swift renewal of expiring tax cuts for all but the highest income earners. "It's too important for Washington to screw this up," he declared.

Obama

For all the talk, there was no sign of tangible progress on an issue that marks a first test for divided government since elections that assured Obama a second term in the White House while renewing Republican control in the House.

"It's time for the president and Democrats to get serious about the spending problem that our country has," Boehner said at a news conference in the Capitol. He, like Obama, expressed optimism that a deal could be reached.

At the same time, he publicly disagreed with one GOP lawmaker, Rep. Tom Cole of Oklahoma, who said he was ready to go along with Obama's plan to renew most but not all of the expiring income tax cuts. "It'll hurt the economy" to raise rates for anyone, said Boehner.

Separately, at a closed-door meeting with the rank and file, the speaker told fellow Republicans they are on solid political ground in refusing to let tax rates rise. He circulated polling data showing the public favors closing loopholes to raise revenue far more than it supports raising rates on incomes over $250,000.

There were no face-to-face talks between the administration and lawmakers during the day, although the White House is dispatching Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner and top legislative aide Rob Nabors to a series of sessions with congressional leaders on Thursday. On Wednesday, a group of corporate CEOs pushing for a deal met separately with top Democratic and Republican leaders in the House, joined by Erskine Bowles, who was co-chairman of a deficit commission Obama appointed earlier in his term.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

BP barred from new US govt contracts, land leases

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Obama administration put a stop to new federal contracts with BP on Wednesday, admonishing the British oil company for a "lack of business integrity" and also disqualifying it indefinitely from winning new leases to drill on taxpayer-owned lands. A lengthy list of criminal counts against BP stemming from the Deepwater Horizon disaster in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010 prompted the Environmental Protection Agency to temporarily suspend new contracts with BP and its affiliates, the agency said. Existing contracts won't be affected. "EPA is taking this action due to BP's lack of business integrity as demonstrated by the company's conduct with regard to the Deepwater Horizon blowout, explosion, oil spill and response," the EPA said in a statement.

Powerball jackpot climbs to $550M on ticket sales

CHICAGO (AP)—As Americans went on a ticket-buying spree, the Powerball jackpot rose to $550 million Wednesday, enticing many people who rarely, if ever, play the lottery to purchase a shot at the second-largest payout in U.S. history. Among them was Lamar Fallie, a jobless Chicago man who said his six tickets conjured a pleasant daydream: If he wins, he plans to take care of his church, make big donations to schools and then "retire from being unemployed." Tickets were selling at a rate of 130,000 a minute nationwide—about six times the volume from a week ago. That meant the jackpot could climb even higher before the Wednesday night drawing, said Chuck Strutt, executive director of the Multi-State Lottery Association.

Kodak reaches improved financing deal worth $830M

NEW YORK (AP)—Struggling photo pioneer Eastman Kodak Co. will get loans worth $830 million in a new financing package that replaces a $793 million deal. The new package also has a longer maturity and lower fees. The offer comes from a committee of 10 institutional investors who all hold senior secured notes in Kodak. The Rochester, N.Y., company says the funds will allow it to complete its reorganization and emerge from bankruptcy protection in the first half of next year. The financing is subject to bankruptcy court approval and requires the company to complete the sale of its digital imaging patent portfolio for at least $500 million. Kodak filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in January after struggling to adapt to the world of digital photography.

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

NOTICE TO ALL SECTION 8 HCV APPLICANTS

(November 19, 2012)

Every six months, as needed, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is required to obtain current information interested Section 8 applicants and to remove applicants who are no longer interested in participating in the program or who fail to respond to a written request to update the information on their applications.

For this reason, and in accordance with Sections 5.2 and 5.3 of NMHC's Revised Administrative Plan (2007), this is to respectfully inform all Section 8 housing choice voucher program applicants that written notices will be mailed out to every applicant listed on the program's waiting list. Upon receipt of a written notice, applicants are requested and required to contact NMHC at Tel. Nos. 234-6866 or 2349447 or via email at housingdiv@nmhc.gov.mp.

Thank you and please direct all questions regarding this public notice to Kimo Rosario or Bryan Bocago at NMHC's Main Office on Saipan at any of the aforementioned telephone numbers or via email at phdmanager@nmhc.gov.net and bsbocago@nmhc.gov.mp, respectively.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

"NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity, lender and employer"

Nation

New blow for Rice: Moderate senator voices concern

WASHINGTON (AP)—A moderate Republican senator, vital to any White House hopes of getting U.N. Ambassador Susan Rice confirmed as secretary of state, said Wednesday she couldn't back any nomination until more questions are answered about the deadly Sept. 11 attack in Libya and Rice's State Department role during the 1998 U.S. Embassy bombing in Kenya.

Rice

In a fresh suggestion of eroding GOP support for Rice, Sen. Susan Collins of Maine emerged from a 90-minute, closed-door meeting with the ambassador voicing new criticism of her initial account about Libya. Collins also questioned what Rice, the assistant secretary of state for African Affairs in the Clinton administration, knew about requests for enhanced embassy security before the Nairobi truck bombing.

Pressed on how she would vote if President Barack Obama names Rice to succeed Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, Collins said, "I would need to have additional information before I could support her nomination."

President Barack Obama came to Rice's defense during a Cabinet meeting, calling her "extraordinary" and saying he couldn't be prouder of the job she has done as U.N. ambassador. Cabinet members joined Obama in applauding Rice, who attended the meeting. Obama has not named a replacement for Clinton, who has said she intends to step down soon.

At the State Department, Clinton was asked about her possible replacement.

"Susan Rice has done a great job as our ambassador to the United Nations," Clinton said. "Of course, this decision about my successor is up to the president, but I am very happy he has the opportunity with a second term to make a decision."

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
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AUCTION NOTICES

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), as auctioneer and seller, hereby gives notice that all the rights, title and interests of NMHC in and to the following described real property will be sold at auction:

LOT NO.:	003 D 16	ADETFA ST., GARAPAN	**MINIMUM BID :**	$ 93,000.00
LOT NO.:	010 K 05	MAGICIENNE BAY AVE., DAN DAN	**MINIMUM BID :**	$ 42,219.36
LOT NO.:	003 D 22	ADETFA ST., GARAPAN	**MINIMUM BID :**	$ 85,500.00

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at NMHC's conference room, Garapan, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. on December 3, 2012, subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Minimum Bid. The minimum acceptable bid for each property shall be $(please see above).
2. Reserve. The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of NMHC as Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, NMHC shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a. To withdraw any property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. To reject any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, NMHC, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-6866; Facisimile: 234-9021; or to Law Office of Vicente T. Salas, P.O. Box 501309, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by cash, cashier's check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard). The remaining balance will be due within three (3) calendar days of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within three (3) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will automatically revert to NMHC.
6. Change of Terms. NMHC reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of NMHC in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property or any related documents will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.
8. Lease with Option to Purchase. NMHC gives notice that it will also consider bids or offers to lease the property, subject to the following additional terms and conditions:
   a. The Lease Price bid shall not be less than the listed Minimum Bid price.
   b. An up-front payment of ten percent (10%) of the Lease Price must be paid upon award by cash, cashier's check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard).
   c. The balance of the Lease Price shall accrue interest at six percent (6%) per annum.
   d. Monthly payments of the Lease will be considered rental payments only and not installments toward purchase and shall not grant the lessee any equity or ownership interest in the property or be construed in any way to encumber NMHC's rights, title and interest in the property beyond the granting of a lease for a specific term of years.
   e. Maximum acceptable Lease term shall be thirty (30) years.
   f. A lease agreement will be given upon receipt of the up-front payment and shall include:
      i. No alterations or improvements without the prior written consent of NMHC.
      ii. Lessee to insure property and improvements during the Lease term.
      iii. Lessee responsible for all utilities and other charges associated with the property.
      iv. Lease not to be assigned or mortgaged without prior written consent of NMHC.
      v. Failure to make a monthly payment grounds for termination and eviction.
      vi. Lease may, at the request of lessee, contain an Option to Purchase provision exercisable upon: (A) payment in full of the Lease Price; (B) the Lease not having been declared to be in default; and (C) payment of $100.00 option consideration. If the option is properly exercised, a quitclaim deed will be given.
   g. In the event of competing lease bids, greater weight will be given to the leasehold offer with the better price, shorter term and larger monthly payments.

Dated this 1st day of November, 2012.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866, 234-9447, 234-7689, 234-7670 • Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

INVITATION FOR BIDS
This ad is paid by NMHC with HUD Funds.

NMHC IFB 2012-011

Cleaning Services for NMHC's Central Office in Saipan

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, are hereby giving notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the **Cleaning Services for NMHC's Central Office in Saipan.**

Interested individuals or firms may pick up a copy of the Project Package beginning Monday, December 3, 2012, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the NMHC Central Office on **Thursday, December 13, 2012, at 9:00 a.m.**, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan. Bidders will have the opportunity to tour NMHC's Central Office that will be covered under the proposed contract. Attendance at this conference is considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder. Inquiries regarding this solicitation must be addressed in writing to the NMHC's Corporate Director, Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, at P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, December 14, 2012.

Sealed bids must be marked **NMHC-IFB 2012-011**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950, not later than **10:00 a.m.,** local time **Friday, December 28, 2012.** Bids received after the date and time will not be accepted. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notice of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than **10:00 a.m.,** local time, **Friday, December 28, 2012,** and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **Friday, December 28, 2012**, and must be received at Procurement and Supply no later than **Monday, January 7, 2013**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan at **8:00 a.m.,** local time, **Tuesday, January 8, 2013**. However, if no notice of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at **10:30 a.m.,** local time on **Friday, December 28, 2012.**

All labor on this project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate of $5.55 per hour which took effect on October 1, 2012 as established by Federal law including subsequent increases of $.50 per hour as announced by the U.S. Department of Labor and/or the CNMI Department of Labor, whichever is higher.

NMHC hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that, in any contacts entered into pursuant to this advertisement, small, minority businesses and women's business enterprises will be afforded equal opportunity to submit bids and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, religion, sex, disabilities or national origin.

This project is also subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 which requires the successful bidder to the "maximum extent feasible", take affirmative steps to provide training, contracting and employment opportunities and help ensure that the economic opportunities generated by these HUD funds are provided to local low-income residents in Saipan.

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference", as amended by Public Laws 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be awarded a contract with NMHC.

NMHC reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in the bids if determined to be in its best interest. All bids received shall become the property of the Commonwealth Government.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NMHC RFP 2012-008
(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

To Conduct a Performance Assessment of NMHC Fiscal and Accounting Division by a CNMI Licensed Certified Public Accountant (C.P.A.) Firm

The Corporate Director of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("NMHC"), a subsidiary public corporation of the Commonwealth Development Authority ("CDA"), a public corporation of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands, is soliciting sealed proposals from CNMI licensed CPA firms to conduct a performance assessment of NMHC's fiscal and accounting division. This procurement is being conducted pursuant to CNMI Procurement Regulations (NMIAC Chapter 70-30.3, specifically § 70-30.3-210).

A mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference is scheduled on **Monday, December 17, 2012, at 9:00 a.m.** at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's Office Conference Room. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 or fax to (670) 234-9021 no later than **Friday, December 21, 2012, 4:30 p.m.**, local time.

One (1) original and three (3) copies of the proposal shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked/stamped "Confidential" and labeled "NMHC RFP 2012-008" for Performance Assessment of NMHC's Fiscal and Accounting Division to the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 a.m., Monday, January 7, 2013.

The guidelines and specifications for this assessment may be picked up at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950 during normal working hours from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI Holidays. Inquiries may be directed to Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Office Manager, at telephone numbers (670) 234-6866/7689, fax 234-9021 or email jskaipat@nmhcgov.net.

This project is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its respective program Admin Fees for the Section 8 Multifamily, Housing Choice Voucher, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME) provided to NMHC, which functions as the Public Housing Authority (PHA) for the Commonwealth.

The Government reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any defects in the said proposals, if in the sole opinion of NMHC, to do so would be in its best interest.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director
Procurement & Supply

NMHC is ann equal employment and fair housing public agency

Attorney: Prayer group killing confession made up

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—A Kansas City man who told police he killed the wife of his prayer group leader at her husband's request made up the story and had nothing to do with the woman's suicide, his defense attorney said Wednesday.

Micah Moore, 23, has been charged with murder in the Oct. 30 death of Bethany Deaton, 27. In his confession, detailed in a probable cause statement, Moore told police that he and other members of the prayer group had sexually assaulted Deaton and were afraid she would tell someone. Moore said that's when Deaton's husband, Tyler, ordered him to kill her, the statement said.

Moore's lawyer, Melanie Morgan, recanted confession on Wednesday, saying it was "bizarre, nonsensical and most importantly, untrue."

"These were the statements of a distraught and confused young man under extreme psychological pressures as a result of his friend Bethany's untimely suicide and the sudden removal of his spiritual leader, Tyler Deaton, from their extremely close-knit religious community," Morgan said in a statement she read outside court after Moore's preliminary hearing was delayed.

Police have said Bethany Deaton's death initially appeared to be a suicide. Officers found a note and empty bottle of over-the-counter pain medication along with her body in a minivan parked by a lake. A plastic trash bag over her head was tied below her chin with the attached pull straps, but not tightly, police said.

It wasn't until Moore confessed nearly two weeks later they announced a homicide investigation.

Tyler Deaton has not been charged in his wife's death. Jackson County prosecutor Jean Peters Baker has said he is under investigation but declined to elaborate. Deaton does not have a listed phone number and did not respond to requests for comment The Associated Press made through Facebook and phone and email messages to his father.

Moore appeared in court in an ill-fitting orange jail jumpsuit and shackled to two other prisoners who were among more than two dozen brought in to make court appearances. His preliminary hearing was delayed after the prosecutor's office asked for more time to take the case before a grand jury.

Morgan said later that she hoped investigators would put as much focus on disproving Moore's confession as they would in substantiating it.

She declined to take questions after reading the statement, which did not specifically address Moore's allegations that Bethany Deaton had been sexually assaulted or that Tyler Deaton had ordered his wife's death. Moore's father and other relatives were in court but declined to speak with reporters.

Tyler and Bethany Deaton had moved to Kansas City in 2009 from Texas to attend a six-month internship at the non-accredited International House of Prayer University. They met as freshmen at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas, in 2005, and two years later Tyler started a prayer group, a former longtime member of the group told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because he was afraid of retaliation from Tyler Deaton.

Tyler Deaton was listed at one point as a division coordinator for IHOPU's "friendship groups," but the school said that was a mistake. It issued a statement distancing itself from Tyler Deaton after Moore, a student at IHOPU, was arrested.

"Since Bethany's death it has come to light that over five years ago, both she and Mr. Moore joined an independent, close-knit, religious group in Georgetown, Texas," the school said in a statement. "This religious group of fewer than 20 people was led by Tyler Deaton. They relocated to Kansas City over the last few years and operated under a veil of secrecy."

IHOPU is the educational arm of International House of Prayer of Kansas City, an evangelical Christian group focused on missions and preparation for the end of time.

In this Nov. 13, 2012, file photo, Micah Moore, 23, right, is escorted into the Jackson County Courthouse Annex in Independence, Mo., for his murder charge in the death of 27-year-old Bethany Ann Deaton. AP

Pot legalization no free ride to smoke on campus

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP)—Young voters helped pass laws legalizing marijuana in Washington and Colorado, but many still won't be able to light up.

Most universities have codes of conduct banning marijuana use, and they get millions of dollars in funding from the federal government, which still considers pot illegal.

With the money comes a requirement for a drug-free campus, and the threat of expulsion for students using pot in the dorms.

"Everything we've seen is that nothing changes for us," said Darin Watkins, a spokesman for Washington State University in Pullman.

So despite college cultures that include pot-smoking demonstrations each year on April 20, students who want to use marijuana will have to do so off campus.

"The first thing you think of when you think of legalized marijuana is college students smoking it," said Anna Marum, a Washington State senior from Kelso, Wash. "It's ironic that all 21-year-olds in Washington can smoke marijuana except for college students."

Voters in November made Washington and Colorado the first states to allow adults over 21 to possess up to an ounce of marijuana, and exit polling showed both measures had significant support from younger people. Taxes could bring the states, which can set up licensing schemes for pot growers, processors and retail stores, tens or hundreds of millions of dollars a year, financial analysts say.

But the laws are fraught with complications, especially at places like college campuses. At Washington State, students who violate the code face a variety of punishments, up to expulsion, Watkins said. The same is true at the University of Colorado Boulder, where the student code of conduct prohibits possessing, cultivating or consuming illegal drugs.

"If you possess marijuana and are over 21, you still may face discipline under the student code of conduct," University of Colorado police spokesman Ryan Huff said.

ACROSS THE NATION

Study: US jails could handle Guantanamo detainees

WASHINGTON (AP)—The controversial detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, could be closed and the 166 detainees being held there could be absorbed safely by U.S. prisons, a government report says. Many of the detainees are accused of plotting terrorist acts against the United States. "This report demonstrates that if the political will exists, we could finally close Guantanamo without imperiling our national security," said Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., the Senate Intelligence Committee chairwoman who released the Government Accountability Office study Wednesday. The GAO study shows that U.S. prisons already hold 373 prisoners convicted of terrorism in 98 facilities across the country.

3 Calif men indicted in terror plot case

RIVERSIDE, Calif. (AP)—Three California men have been indicted on terrorism-related charges for allegedly plotting to kill Americans overseas. An indictment filed Wednesday charges Ralph Deleon, Miguel Alejandro Santana Vidriales and Arifeen David Gojali with conspiracy to provide material support to terrorists. If convicted, they each could face up to 15 years in prison. The three men were arrested earlier this month. Federal authorities say they planned to board a plane headed for Istanbul and eventually make their way to Afghanistan. Authorities allege the men were to meet up with a ringleader, 34-year-old American Sohiel Omar Kabir, who also is facing terrorism-related charges.

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
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AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE
UNDER POWER OF SALE
IN DEED OF TRUST

Francisco L. Kaipat, (collectively "Trustor"), on or about February 21, 2001 gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, formerly known as the Mariana Island Housing Authority ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the Department of Veterans Affairs, United States of America, ("VA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on February 26, 2001 under Document No. 01-268 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the VA.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 128 D 51, (formerly known as part of Lot 018 D 57), containing an area of 620 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 128 D 00 the original of which was recorded 07 DEC 99 as Document No. 99-2896 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default Trustee issued its Amended Notice of Default on September 21, 2011. More than thirty days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2CMC §4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, Trustee will, on **Monday, December 10, 2012 at 10:00 a.m., at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's office in Garapan, Saipan** under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. **The minimum acceptable bid offer shall be not less than $69,000.00 the total amount due under the VA loan.**

A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within 72 hours of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within 72 hours will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will automatically revert to NMHC. The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property of the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash or cashier's check.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

DATED this 8th day of November, 2012.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director, NMHC

Lot No.:	128 D 51
Area:	620 m²
Gross Living Area:	1,201 Ft²
Location:	Adilanto Loop, Sugar King Estates, Saipan
3 BR, 2 Bath	
Minimum Bid:	$69,000.00
Bid Date:	December 10, 2012
Bid Time:	10:00 a.m.
Bid Place:	NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan

Asia

Wal-Mart, Disney clothes found in Bangladesh fire

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—The garment factory in Bangladesh where 112 people were killed in a fire had been making clothes for Wal-Mart, Disney, Sears and other major global retailers—some of whom say they thought they had stopped doing business with the place.

The apparent confusion underscored what some industry experts say is a major obstacle to improving factory safety in developing nations: Many retailers in the U.S. and Europe rely on such a long and complex chain of manufacturers, vendors and middlemen to keep their shelves stocked that it is difficult to keep track of where certain products are made.

Amid the blackened tables and melted sewing machines at Tazreen Fashions Ltd., an Associated Press reporter discovered clothes and account books Wednesday that indicated the factory was used by a host of U.S. and European retailers.

Among the items discovered: children's shorts with Wal-Mart's Faded Glory label, hooded sweaters marked "Disney Pixar," shorts with hip-hop star Sean Combs' ENYCE tag, and sweaters from the French company Teddy Smith and the Scottish company Edinburgh Woollen Mill. Sears was among the companies listed in the account books.

The tragedy is putting a spotlight on dangerous workplace conditions around the world, with no clear answers to how consumers should react or who is ultimately responsible.

Wal-Mart said that it received a safety audit that showed the factory was "high-risk" and had decided well before the blaze to stop doing business with Tazreen. But it said a supplier had continued to use Tazreen without authorization.

When pressed for an explanation of how a supplier could use a factory without the retailer's approval and whether it happened often, Kevin Gardner, a Wal-Mart spokesman, did not directly address the issue in emails to The Associated Press.

Sears said it learned after the blaze that its merchandise was being produced there without its approval through a vendor, which has since been fired. Walt Disney Co., which licenses its characters to clothing makers, said its records indicate that none of its licensees have been permitted to make Disney-brand products at the factory for at least a year.

Retailers like Wal-Mart have contract clauses that require suppliers to disclose all factories and subcontractors producing merchandise for sale. But it's hard to crack down on unauthorized subcontracting, said Josh Green, chief executive of New York-based Panjiva, which tracks shipments for factories outside the U.S.

"The reality is you have to have round-the-clock monitoring of every aspect of the supplier's operations," he said. "It's just not feasible."

ASIAN BRIEFS

Philippines will not stamp new Chinese passport

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippines has become the latest country to say it will not stamp visas in a new Chinese passport because it includes a map of the South China Sea that Manila says shows its territory. The Department of Foreign Affairs said Wednesday that the visas will be stamped in a separate visa application form. It said the move reinforces its protest formally conveyed to Beijing last week against China's "excessive claim over almost the entire South China Sea, including the West Philippine Sea." It said stamping the passport could be seen as "legitimizing" China's claims.

Rights group: South Korea abusing security law

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Amnesty International says South Korea has ramped up its questioning of citizens for alleged violations of a controversial security law. Amnesty says it's particularly troubled over a vaguely worded section of the National Security Law that can subject a person to up to seven years in prison for praising rival North Korea. The rights group said Wednesday that there's been a nearly 100 percent rise in the number of people grilled over the law in the last four years. It cites South Korean prosecutors. The warning comes a week after a South Korean court sentenced a 24-year-old man to a suspended 10-month prison term for retweeting North Korean propaganda posts.

Pakistan test-fires nuclear-capable missile

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistan's military says it has successfully test-fired a medium-range ballistic missile capable of carrying a nuclear warhead. A military statement says the Hatf V or Ghauri missile was launched Wednesday from an undisclosed location. It says the missile can carry both conventional and nuclear warheads over a distance of 1,300 kilometers (810 miles). Pakistan has previously test-fired this same missile. The country became a declared nuclear power in 1998, when it conducted underground nuclear tests in response to those carried out by its archenemy and neighbor, India.

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World

Egypt crisis raises fears of 'second revolution'

CAIRO (AP)—Faced with an unprecedented strike by the courts and massive opposition protests, Egypt's Islamist president is not backing down in the showdown over decrees granting him near-absolute powers.

Activists warn that his actions threaten a "second revolution," but Mohammed Morsi faces a different situation than his ousted predecessor, Hosni Mubarak: He was democratically elected and enjoys the support of the nation's most powerful political movement.

Already, Morsi is rushing the work of an Islamist-dominated constitutional assembly at the heart of the power struggle, with a draft of the charter expected as early as Thursday, despite a walkout by liberal and Christian members that has raised questions about the panel's legitimacy.

The next step would be for Morsi to call a nationwide referendum on the document. If adopted, parliamentary elections would be held by the spring.

Wednesday brought a last-minute scramble to seize the momentum over Egypt's political transition. Morsi's camp announced that his Muslim Brotherhood and other Islamists will stage a massive rally in Cairo's Tahrir Square, the plaza where more than 200,000 opposition supporters gathered a day earlier.

The Islamists' choice of the square for Saturday's rally raises the possibility of clashes. Several hundred Morsi opponents are camped out there, and another group is fighting the police on a nearby street.

"It is tantamount to a declaration of war," said liberal politician Mustafa al-Naggar, speaking on the private Al-Tahrir TV station.

Morsi remains adamant that his decrees, which place him above oversight of any kind, including by the courts, are in the interest of the nation's transition to democratic rule.

Backing down may not be an option for the 60-year-old U.S.-educated engineer.

Doing so would significantly weaken him and the Brotherhood at a time when their image has been battered by widespread charges that they are too preoccupied with tightening their grip on power to effectively tackle the country's many pressing problems.

Morsi's pride is also a key factor in a country where most people look to their leader as an invincible figure.

Palestinians hope to gain leverage from UN bid

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP)—The expected U.N. vote Thursday to recognize a state of Palestine will be far more than symbolic—it could give the Palestinians leverage in future border talks with Israel and open the way for possible war crimes charges against the Jewish state.

The Palestinians want the 193-member General Assembly to accept "Palestine," on the lands Israel occupied in 1967, as a non-member observer state. They anticipate broad support.

For Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, the U.N. bid is a last-ditch attempt to stay relevant as a leader after years of failed peace talks with Israel, at a time when his Islamic militant Hamas rivals are gaining ground.

The U.S. and Israel have tried to block the quest for U.N. recognition of Palestine, saying it's an attempt to bypass Israeli-Palestinian negotiations that broke down four years ago.

The U.S. deputy secretary of state, William Burns, met with Abbas in New York on Wednesday, asking Abbas again to drop the idea and promising that President Barack Obama would re-engage as a mediator in 2013, said Abbas aide Saeb Erekat. Abbas told Burns it was too late.

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said U.N. recognition of an independent Palestine won't help to reach a lasting two-state peace agreement and stressed that the "path to a two-state solution that fulfills the aspirations of the Palestinian people is through Jerusalem and Ramallah, not New York."

Arctic sea ice larger than US melted this year

DOHA, Qatar (AP)—An area of Arctic sea ice bigger than the United States melted this year, according the U.N. weather agency, which said the dramatic decline illustrates that climate change is happening "before our eyes."

In a report released at U.N. climate talks in the Qatari capital of Doha, the World Meteorological Organization said the Arctic ice melt was one of a myriad of extreme and record-breaking weather events to hit the planet in 2012. Droughts devastated nearly two-thirds of the United States as well western Russia and southern Europe. Floods swamped west Africa and heat waves left much of the Northern Hemisphere sweltering.

But it was the ice melt that seemed to dominate the annual climate report, with the U.N. concluding ice cover had reached "a new record low" in the area around the North Pole and that the loss from March to September was a staggering 11.83 million square kilometers (4.57 million square miles)—an area bigger than the United States.

"The alarming rate of its melt this year highlighted the far-reaching changes taking place on Earth's oceans and biosphere," WMO Secretary-General Michel Jarraud said. "Climate change is taking place before our eyes and will continue to do so as a result of the concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, which have risen constantly and again reached new records."

Legal Notice

If You Paid for the Heart Medication, Toprol XL® or its Generic

You Could Get Money from a Class Action Settlement

A Settlement has been reached in a class action lawsuit involving the heart medication, Toprol XL® and its generic equivalent, metoprolol succinate. AstraZeneca AB, AstraZeneca LP, AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP, and Aktiebolaget Hassle (the "Defendants") will pay up to $11 million. After payment of fees and expenses, approximately 50% of the net fund will be paid to consumers, and approximately 50% will be paid to insurers and employee welfare benefit plans.

The lawsuit claims that the Defendants violated antitrust and consumer protection laws by keeping lower cost generic versions of Toprol XL® off the market. The Defendants deny this. **No one is claiming that Toprol XL® or its generic are unsafe or ineffective.**

Who's Included?

Generally, you are included if you purchased, paid for and/or reimbursed others for Toprol XL® or its generic equivalent at any time from May 5, 2005 through September 27, 2012. Purchases made directly from the Defendants are not included under the Settlement.

What Can You Get?

Payments will be based on the valid claims filed (that is, how much you and others paid for Toprol XL® or its generic and when you paid for it). More details are available in the Plan of Allocation, which will be available at www.ToprolSettlement.com or by calling 1-877-854-3273.

How to Get a Payment?

You must submit a Claim Form to get a payment. The Claim Form, and instructions on how to submit it, are available at www.ToprolSettlement.com or by calling 1-877-854-3273. The deadline to submit a Claim Form is **April 1, 2013**.

Your Other Rights.

If you do nothing, your rights will be affected. If you do not want to be legally bound by the Settlement, you must exclude yourself from the Settlement by **January 18, 2013**. If you do not exclude yourself you will not be able to sue the Defendants for any claim relating to the lawsuit. If you stay in the Settlement, you may object to it by **January 18, 2013**.

The Court will hold a hearing on **March 7, 2013** to consider whether to approve the Settlement and a request for attorneys' fees up to $3.5 million, reimbursement of costs, and incentive awards. You can appear at the hearing, but you don't have to. You can hire your own attorney, at your own expense, to appear or speak for you at the hearing.

For complete information and a Claim Form:

Visit: www.ToprolSettlement.com Call: 1-877-854-3273

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB13-DPL-006

SUBMISSION DATE: DECEMBER 18, 2012 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"OFFICE SPACE LEASE ON SAIPAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND THE APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

THE PROPOSER MUST COMPLY WITH CNMI PUBLIC LAW 15-23, ARTICLE 5, SECTION 8652 (A)-(D).

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ RAMON S. SALAS
ACTING SECRETARY OF PUBLIC LANDS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB13-DPW/ED-035

SUBMISSION DATE: DECEMBER 27, 2012 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF ENERGY-EFFICIENT ENERGY STAR RATED COMPACT FLORESCENT LAMS (CFL's) FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, ENERGY DIVISION"

THE COMPLETE BID PACKAGE WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE CNMI ENERGY DIVISION OFFICE (EECBG), LOCATED AT SPRINGS PLAZA DEVELOPMENT BUILDING ALONG CHALAN PALE ARNOLD HIGHWAY, SAIPAN OR REQUESTED VIA EMAIL TO **clfs@recovery.gov.mp** DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFRERENCE WILL BE HELD ON **DECEMBER 11, 2012 AT 9:00 A.M.**, AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS MAIN OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, 2ND FLOOR, GUALO RAI COMMERCIAL BUILDING.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT SHOULD BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING VIA E-MAIL TO clfs@recovery.gov.mp NO LATER THAN CLOSE OF BUSINESS **DECEMBER 14, 2012**.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

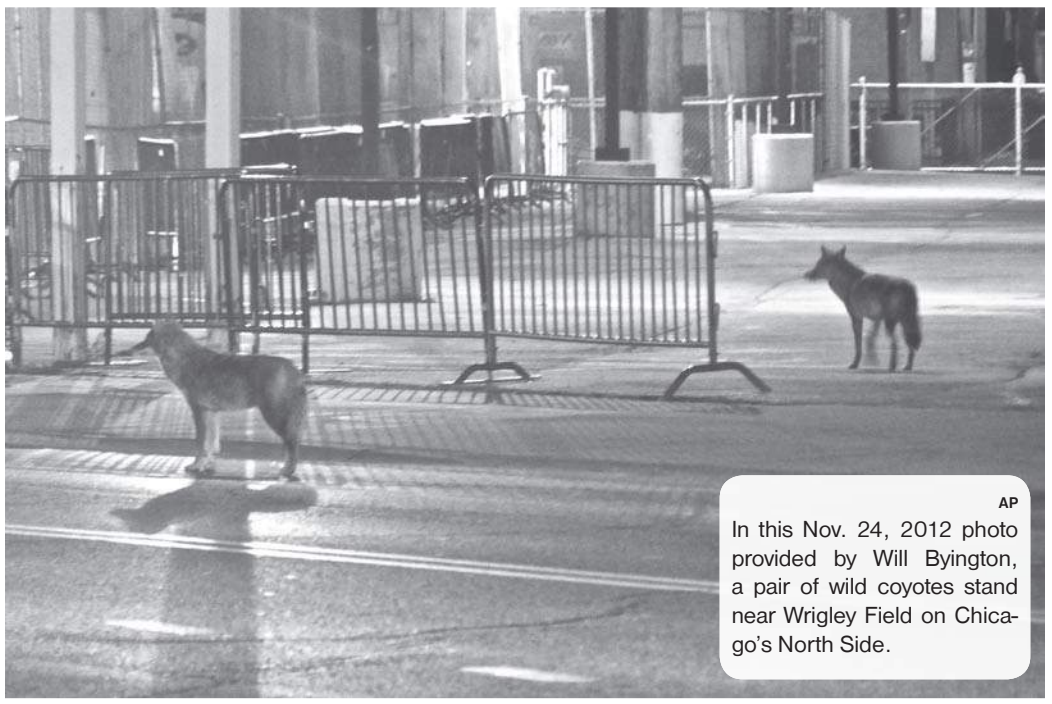
THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN A PROPOSAL IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ VICENTE B. CASTRO
ACTING SECRETARY OF PUBLIC LANDS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

/S/ THELMA B. INOS
DIRECTOR, ENERGY DIV.

Off The Wall



AP
In this Nov. 24, 2012 photo provided by Will Byington, a pair of wild coyotes stand near Wrigley Field on Chicago's North Side.

Wild coyotes 'kind of chilling' by Wrigley Field

By BARBARA RODRIGUEZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO (AP)—Wild baseball fans might be a standard sight at Wrigley Field, but a pair of wild coyotes milling around Chicago's historic ballpark—surrounded on all sides by bars, restaurants and busy streets—wasn't what one photographer was expecting on a busy Friday night.

So he quickly grabbed his camera.

"They were just kind of chilling," freelance photographer Will Byington said. "They were hanging out and not even doing much. They were kind of just checking out the scene on a Friday night in Wrigleyville. It was like they were on a date, taking a stroll."

Byington said he was shooting a concert at a bar across the street from the stadium in the Wrigleyville neighborhood, notoriously crowded and often rowdy on weekend nights, when he saw the two coyotes hanging out by the statute of former Chicago Cubs player Ernie Banks, near the ticketing area.

"It was kind of like they were looking for tickets," the 34-year-old Chicago resident laughed. "They went by the ticket window and unfortunately found it was closed, so they were ready to move onto the bar."

Wildlife ecologist Stanley Gehrt, who has extensively studied coyotes living in and around Chicago, said coyotes have been in the area for the past decade. He said the latest data shows there are at least 2,000 coyotes in Cook County, where Chicago is located.

"That's their territory. They live there," Gehrt, who works at Ohio State University, said of the unusual pair, which he said were born and raised in the city and likely live in Wrigleyville.

Byington had just a few minutes to snap his nighttime photos before the animals moved on. But he said the coyotes appeared unfazed by the honking horns and packed sidewalks. One even stepped onto a street as cabs and cars crawled by in traffic as if the coyote was "trying to figure out, do they want to eat? Or do they want to get a drink?" he said.

Byington didn't think much of his photos until he posted them online. But they started gathering attention after getting picked up on Facebook by the Cubby Bear bar where he had been working that night.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Blood dripping from SUV leads to poaching arrests

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, Calif. (AP)—Blood dripping from the back of an SUV led to the arrest of two Sacramento men accused of illegally shooting a deer, then stabbing it to death in their vehicle when it suddenly came to and began to struggle. The Tahoe Daily Tribune reports 46-year-old Scott Lee and 32-year-old Nai Saechao were arrested Nov. 18 on poaching, animal cruelty and other charges. The El Dorado County Sheriff's Office says the California Highway Patrol received multiple calls from people reporting blood seeping out of a Toyota SUV near Shingle Springs, a small community in the Sierra foothills 40 miles east of Sacramento. When authorities pulled over the vehicle, they found the deer carcass in the back. Officers say both men and the interior of the SUV were smeared with blood.

Ohio's 'cleaning fairy' gets 1 year of probation

CLEVELAND (AP)—An Ohio woman dubbed the "cleaning fairy" after she broke into a home, cleaned it and left a $75 bill has been put on probation for one year. A judge sentenced 53-year-old Susan Warren of Elyria on Monday in Cleveland on her guilty plea to attempted burglary. She also must do 20 hours of community service. The woman told authorities she was driving by the Westlake house and "wanted something to do." She broke in, washed some coffee cups, took out the trash, vacuumed and dusted inside the house. Then she left a bill written on a napkin and included her phone number. Warren says she owns a cleaning business and sometimes enters homes, cleans them and leaves a bill.

In Celebration of his new life

†Raymond Anthony Tudela Duenas

December 15, 1969 - November 01, 2012

In his new life, he now joins his **Mother, †Victorina Manibusan Tudela**

Raymond Anthony is survived by his **Parents, Joaquin Cabrera (Ti'an) Duenas and Maria Miyasaki Babauta Duenas**.

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his **Wife Joycelyn Salas, his Children, Grandchild, Brothers, Sisters, and In-Laws.**

He will be greatly missed by numerous uncles, aunties, relatives and friends.

His remains will arrive on Saipan from Guam on Friday, November 30, 2012 at 3:00pm and will lie in state at Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel.

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, December 01, 2012.

Holy Rosary	7:30am - Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel
	8:00am - Responso Service
Mass of Christian Burial	9:00am - San Vicente Church
Interment Service	Chalan Kanoa Cemetery

Please join us in prayers,

Joaquin C. and Maria B. Duenas, Children and Family
I FAMILIA

In Loving Memory of Our Dearly Beloved

Francisco Diaz Diaz

better known as "Fransiscon Reiko"
March 30, 1926 - November 23, 2012

Called to his eternal rest by our Lord at 86 years old

Our dearly beloved now joins his heavenly family and will be greeted in his new life by:
Mother: *†Maria Torres Diaz*
Father: *†Francisco Dela Cruz Diaz*
Sisters & Brothers In-Law: *†Juana D. Diaz, †Isabel D. Diaz; †Rita D. Diaz; †Maria D. Diaz; †Rosa D. Gonzales & †Clark Gonzales; †Rita D. Sablan; †Emiliana D. Diaz; †Juan LG. Cabrera*
Brothers & Sisters In-Law: *†Vicente D. Diaz & †Teresa U. Diaz; †Nicolas D. Diaz; †Jose D. Diaz & †Thomasa U. Diaz; †Antonio D. Diaz & †Maria M. Diaz; †Joaquin P. Villagomez & †Emiliana S.Villagomez*
Son: *†Francisco "Musco" T. Diaz*
Daughter: *†Victorina D. Jones*
Mother-In-Law: *†Harue Tanaka*
Father-in-Law: *†Ei Tanaka*

He will be dearly missed by his:
Wife: *Maria "Reiko" Tanaka Diaz*
Children, Grandchildren & Great-grandchildren:
- *Edward T. & Debra P. Diaz and Family*
- *Elizabeth D. & Ramon Rechebei and Family*
- *†Francisco "Musco" T. Diaz's Family*
- *Margaret D. & Juan "Robit" C. Tudela and Family*
- *David T. & Thasnee "Usa" S. Diaz and Family*

Sister:
- *Concepcion "Chong" D. Cabrera and Family*

Brother-In-Law:
- *Herman S. Sablan and Family*

Son-In-Law:
- *William "Bill" A. Jones*

Our dearly beloved will also be missed by numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

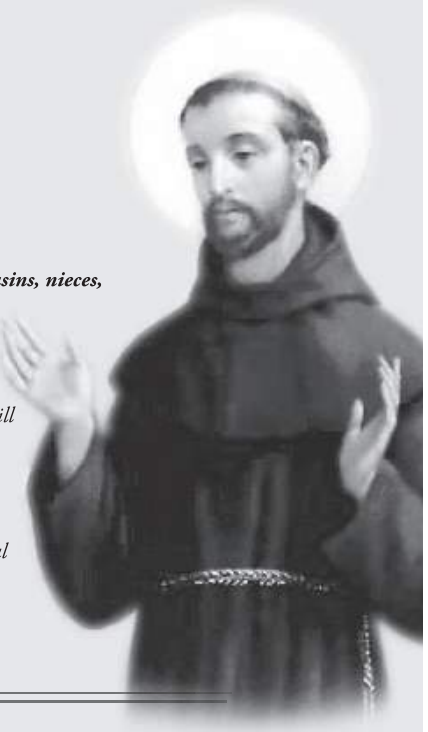
Holy mass is being offered for our dearly beloved every morning at 6 AM at Mount Carmel Cathedral.

On Saturday, December 1st, viewing of our dearly beloved will take place at 7 AM at Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel and will be escorted to Nuestra Senora de Soledad Church at 9 AM.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 AM, followed by the entombment at the Sanctuario PAX Memorial Gardens in Kagman.

Your thoughts, prayers and presence are sincerely appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase - Ginen I Familia



Science & Technology

PrivacyChoice helps 'track the trackers' online

By TYLER DUKES
THE NEWS & OBSERVER (RALEIGH, N.C.)

Whether we realize or not, every time we launch our browsers and visit our favorite websites, we're swapping information.

Many of the same servers offering up content from cat photos to cooking tips are tracking where we've been and how we interact online, storing that information in a database and selling it in aggregate to the highest bidder.

But exactly what these sites are collecting and how they're sharing it with others is a little harder to figure out—especially for an average user unwilling to wade through privacy policy jargon.

Jim Brock knows this better than most. As an executive at Yahoo in the early 2000s, he saw firsthand how advertising companies were beginning to capitalize on the intelligence they could gather about online consumers.

That's one of the reasons Brock founded PrivacyChoice, a company that "tracks the trackers" with a curated database of more than 450 ad and data companies and their privacy policies.

Now, users can harness that database to analyze their own privacy settings with Privacyfix, a free browser extension for Chrome and Firefox.

Since it launched in early October, 200,000 have used the application to learn more about the risks (and rewards) of being tracked. And it's that guided approach, Brock said, that's resonating with people who want to make their own privacy decisions.

"We don't sell fear. We don't try to say it's all bad," Brock said in a phone interview. "What we want you know is that you have a choice."

A DJ rides the WAV of high sound quality

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I am a contemporary ballroom DJ and have been looking in vain for software that can copy .WAV format music files and a DVD player that can play them randomly.

Specifically, I need software that allows me to copy and store on my computer some .WAV music files, or the commercial equivalent that has the same sound quality. I also need this software to burn a compilation of .WAV files. I do not want to use lesser-quality MP3 music files, but so far all the programs that I've found use MP3.

I need a DVD player that can play the songs on a compilation disk in the random method sometimes called shuffle. I also would like the DVD player to maintain a list of the songs, and delete a song from the list after it has played—a common feature in CD players.—Miguel Melgar, Miami

ANSWER: I understand why you want to use high-quality sound files in the .WAV (Waveform Audio File) format. WAV files are either untouched original song recordings or compressed song recordings that have had minimal amounts of data removed. By comparison, songs in the widely used MP3 (Motion Picture Experts Group Audio Layer 3) format have had a lot of sound data removed to compress them into tiny data files.

Both iTunes and Windows Media Player can burn songs already in the .WAV format to an audio disk without any conversion that compromises their sound. (This works on any .WAV file taken from a standard music CD.) After you import the .WAV music files into one of these programs, drag the .WAV files to the playlist you want to burn. See tinyurl.com/c3lk75p.

For a look at some DJ-oriented DVD players, see tinyurl.com/bt3zgb5 or tinyurl.com/6qoqtfx.

But instead of burning music disks and buying a DVD player, you could skip all that and instead play the .WAV music files and manipulate your playlists on a PC using DJ-specific software (see tinyurl.com/dxoagka.) In addition, iTunes has a built-in DJ function (see tinyurl.com/d4op-2fa), and there are DJ-friendly apps for the Apple iPad (see tinyurl.com/btbphjd.)

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune.

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB13-CHC-039

Submission/Opening Date: December 19, 2012 Time: 10:00 a.m.

"Lease of a Class "E" Vehicle (Four-Door Sedan) for the Commonweatlh Healthcare Corporation – immunization Program-Rota"

Copies of the specifications may be picked-up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

This is a federally funded project; as such, **local preference is not avaiable** because its use is prohibited by federal law granting funding for this project.

The government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals, in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfections in the best interest of the Commonwealth.

/s/ Juan N. Babauta, CEO – Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.
/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director, P&S
/s/ Roxanne Diaz, Public Health Services Director

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB13-CHC-038

Submission/Opening Date: December 19, 2012 Time: 10:00 a.m.

"Lease of a Class "E" Vehicle (Four-Door Sedan) for the Commonweatlh Healthcare Corporation – immunization Program-Tinian"

Copies of the specifications may be picked-up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

This is a federally funded project; as such, **local preference is not avaiable** because its use is prohibited by federal law granting funding for this project.

The government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals, in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfections in the best interest of the Commonwealth.

/s/ Juan N. Babauta, CEO – Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.
/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director, P&S
/s/ Roxanne Diaz, Public Health Services Director

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB13-CHC-036 (A-D)

Submission/Opening Date: December 18, 2012 Time: 10:30 a.m.

"Purchase of Ten (10) Desktop Computers, Two (2) Laptop Computers, Ten (10) Printers and Two (2) Scanners for the Commonweatlh Healthcare Corporation – immunization program"

Copies of the specifications may be picked-up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

This is a federally funded project; as such, local preference is not avaiable because its use is prohibited by federal law granting funding for this project.

The government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals, in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfections in the best interest of the Commonwealth.

/s/ Juan N. Babauta, CEO – Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.
/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director, P&S
/s/ Roxanne Diaz, Public Health Services Director

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB13-CHC-037

Submission/Opening Date: December 19, 2012 Time: 10:00 a.m.

"Lease of a Class "E" Vehicle (Four-Door Sedan) for the Commonweatlh Healthcare Corporation – Immunization Program"

Copies of the specifications may be picked-up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

This is a federally funded project; as such, **local preference is not available** because its use is prohibited by federal law granting funding for this project.

The government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals, in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfections in the best interest of the Commonwealth.

/s/ Juan N. Babauta, CEO – Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.
/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director, P&S
/s/ Roxanne Diaz, Public Health Services Director

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Logistics Manager

Graduate of 4-year degree course and with at least 6 years management experience in the logistics business with emphasis on airfreight, ocean freight forwarding, warehousing and fuel hauling operations. Knowledge of Federal Regulations in Transportation, Environmental and Occupational Safety Hazards is required. Must have obtained certifications/training in Hazmat, Occupational Safety and Hazardous Waste Operation, Emergency Response, IICL (Container and Chassis), Petroleum Standard Operating Procedure and Vehicle Safety Guidelines.

A pre-employment drug testing will be required. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification and experience. For applications to be considered, they should submit resume to CTSI Logistics, lower base not later than December 7, 2012, Friday.

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF
MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234 -9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, Plaintiff,	]	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0261**
Vs.	]	**NOTICE OF SALE**
DIEGO A. SASAMOTO and ANICIA S. SASAMOTO, Defendants.	]	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on October 9, 2012, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following property: Lot No. 011 G 736, situated in Kagman III, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 800 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Survey Official Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 14, dated December 1, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 93-4182, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, December 14, 2012, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 23rd day of October, 2012.

/s/MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

Jeeraphong Thoensaket
P.O. Box 505783
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: 670-323-6694

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA
ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Petition for the Change of Name of:
Jeeraphong Thoensaket
Petitioner

FCD CN CIVIL ACTION NO.
12-0557

NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on January 03, 2013, at 10:30 a.m. in Courtroom 205A before Honorable Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 28th day of November, 2012.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

KARIDAT

A Northern Mariana Islands Social Service

Congratulations to the following winners of Karidat's Raffle held on November 16, 2012 at the Multipurpose Bldg. Deadline for claiming your prize is December 14, 2012. Thank you for supporting Karidat with its fundraising event.

Prize	Ticket #	Winners
Grand Prize	#421128	Larissa S. Flores
Baby Grand	#422662	Jack Ogumoro
Grand Prize	#421184	W. P. Camacho
1st	#422952	Lorraine A. Babauta
2nd	#421543	Edward C. Sablan
3rd	#421858	Esther S. Fleming
4th	#181332	Charlene M. Tenorio
5th	#422070	J. M. Torres
6th	#181075	J. I. Pangelinan
7th	#422022	Agustin Palacios
8th	#422663	Jack Ogumoro
9th	#422913	Il Hwan Kim
10th	#421068	Ruth Pangelinan
11th	#422902	Il Hwan Kim
12th	#421478	Mac Chargualaf
13th	#422964	Lorraine A. Babauta
14th	#422596	Federico Bernardo
15th	#181117	Mariano Bermudes
16th	#422782	Frances Dlg. Borja
17th	#421043	Eloise A. Furey
18th	#421147	FSR
19th	#421539	Frances Sablan
20th	#181004	Ron Choi
21st	#421176	W. P. Camacho
22nd	#422147	Piding M. Ada
23rd	#422887	Il Hwan Kim
24th	#422976	(no name)
25th	#181187	ABP
26th	#422048	Manny Kisa
27th	#422124	Piding M. Ada

Life & Style

Rapper PSY wants Tom Cruise to go 'Gangnam Style'

BANGKOK (AP)—The South Korean rapper behind YouTube's most-viewed video ever has set what might be a "Mission: Impossible" for himself.

Asked which celebrity he would like to see go "Gangnam Style," the singer PSY told The Associated Press: "Tom Cruise!"

Surrounded by screaming fans, he then chuckled at the idea of the American movie star doing his now famous horse-riding dance.

PSY's comments Wednesday in Bangkok were his first public remarks since his viral smash video—with 842 million views and counting—surpassed Justin Bieber's "Baby," which until Saturday held the record with 803 million views.

"It's amazing," PSY told a news conference, saying he never set out to become an international star. "I made this video just for Korea, actually. And when I released this song—wow."

The video has spawned hundreds of parodies and tribute videos and earned him a spotlight alongside a variety of superstars.

Earlier this month, Madonna invited PSY onstage and they danced to his song at one of her New York City concerts. MC Hammer introduced the Korean star at the American Music Awards as, "My Homeboy PSY!"

Psy

Even President Barack Obama is talking about him. Asked on Election Day if he could do the dance, Obama replied: "I think I can do that move," but then concluded he might "do it privately for Michelle," the first lady.

PSY was in Thailand to give a free concert Wednesday night organized as a tribute to the country's revered King Bhumibol Adulyadej, who turns 85 next month. He paid respects to the king at a Bangkok shopping mall, signing his name in an autograph book placed beside a giant poster of the king. He then gave an outdoor news conference, as screaming fans performed the "Gangnam Style" dance.

Determined not to be a one-hit wonder, PSY said he plans to release a worldwide album in March with dance moves that he thinks his international fans will like.

"I think I have plenty of dance moves left," he said, in his trademark sunglasses and dark suit. "But I'm really concerned about the (next) music video."

"How can I beat 'Gangnam Style'?" he asked, smiling. "How can I beat 850 million views?"

In elf ears and wizard hats, 'Hobbit' fans rejoice

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—Wearing elf ears and wizard hats, sitting atop their dad's shoulders or peering from balconies, tens of thousands of New Zealanders watched their favorite "Hobbit" actors walk the red carpet at the film trilogy's hometown premiere.

An Air New Zealand plane freshly painted with "Hobbit" characters flew low over Wellington's Embassy Theatre, eliciting roars of approval from the crowd.

Sam Rashidmardani, 12, said he came to see Gollum actor Andy Serkis walk the red carpet—and he wasn't disappointed.

"It was amazing," Rashidmardani said of the evening, adding his Gollum impression: "My precious."

British actor Martin Freeman, who brings comedic timing to the lead role of Bilbo Baggins, said he thought director Peter Jackson had done a fantastic job on "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey."

"He's done it again," Freeman said in an interview on the red carpet Wednesday. "If it's possible, it's probably even better than 'The Lord of the Rings.' I think he's surpassed it."

While it is unusual for a city so far from Hollywood to host the premiere of a hoped-for blockbuster, Jackson's filming of his lauded 'LOTR' trilogy and now "The Hobbit" in New Zealand has helped create a film industry here. The film will open in theaters around the world next month.

One of the talking points of the film is the choice by Jackson to shoot it using 48 frames per second instead of the traditional 24 in hopes of improving the picture quality.

A Northern Mariana Islands Social Service

KARIDAT

THANK YOU

Karidat extends its sincere appreciation to the following business and individuals who contributed to the 32nd Golf tournament and Raffle and to all those individuals who bought tickets for the two events.

Bank of Hawaii	Trader's Insurance	Frank C. Castro
Bank of Guam	Saipan Shipping Co.	Norman T. Tenorio
IT & E	Megabyte Saipan	Juan L. Babauta
McDonald's Restaurant	Kautz Glass Co.	Tina O. Barcinas
J.C. Tenorio Enterprises	Pena House	Gu Hee Park
Duty Free Saipan	Kanoa Resort	Rick Kautz
Hyatt Regency Hotel	Fiesta Resort & Spa	J. Scott Magliari
Pacific Islands Club	Liberty Plaza	Fred F. Camacho
Chong's Corporation	Ace Hardware	Matilde M. Hocog
Mar Pac	Triple J Motors	Ta Bun Kuy
Torres Refrigeration	Triple J Wholesale	Il Hwan Kim
Marianas Resort & Spa	Hardt Eye Clinic	Mac Chargualaf
Burger & Comer	Saipan Dolphin	Anthony P. Benavente
Marianas Variety	Gold Ribbon	Mariano Bernudes
Herman's Modern Bakery	Microl Corporation	Jesse Stole
Tan Siu Lin Foundation	Joeten SuperStore	Juan (Shine) Tenorio
National Office Supply	Joeten Super Market	Ron Choi
J.G. Sablan Ice & Water Co.	Pacifica Insurance	Lorraine A. Babauta
Saipan Ice & Water Co.	Tournament of Champion	Senator Jude Hofschneider
Happy Market (As Lito)	Margaret R. Tenorio	Senator Ralph Torres
Wing's Travel	Atty. Ed Manibusan	Coral Ocean Point
Mobil Marianas	Martin C. Sablan	Takagi & Associates Inc.

HOLLYWOOD THEATERS

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$6.00	Student Admission with Valid I.D.
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$2.50	Additional for 3D Shows

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Friday, Nov. 30th through Thursday, Dec. 6th, 2012

OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

NOW SHOWING

Rise of the Guardians 3D

Friday		7:30	9:45
Saturday	1:30	7:30	9:45
Sunday	1:30	7:30	
Monday thru Thursday		7:30	

Cast: Chris Pine, Hugh Jackman, Alec Baldwin
Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG

Synopsis

A group of mythical fairy-tale characters team up to save the world in this DreamWorks Animation production. Based on William Joyce's series of children's books, the pic features the voice acting talents of Chris Pine, Hugh Jackman, Alec Baldwin, Jude Law, and Isla Fisher. Peter Ramsey co-directs with Joyce.

Life of Pi 3D

Friday		7:05	9:50
Saturday	1:05	7:05	9:50
Sunday	1:05	7:05	
Monday thru Thursday		7:05	

Cast: Suraj Sharma, Irfan Khan, Tabu, Rafe Spall
Genre: Drama, Adventure • Rated PG

Red Dawn

Friday		4:25	7:25	9:35
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25	9:35
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25	
Monday thru Thursday		4:25	7:25	

Chris Hemsworth, Josh Peck, Josh Hutcherson
Genre: Action • Rated PG13

Life of Pi 2D

Friday	4:05
Saturday	4:05
Sunday	4:05
Monday thru Thursday	4:05

Cast: Suraj Sharma, Irfan Khan, Tabu, Rafe Spall
Genre: Drama, Adventure • Rated PG

Rise of the Guardians 2D

Friday	4:30
Saturday	4:30
Sunday	4:30
Monday thru Thursday	4:30

Cast: Chris Pine, Hugh Jackman, Alec Baldwin
Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG

Twilight: Breaking Dawn Part 2

Friday		4:00	7:00	9:30
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:30
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Monday thru Thursday		4:00	7:00	

Cast: Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson, Taylor Lautner
Genre: Fantasy • Rated PG13

Flight

Friday		4:10	7:10	9:55
Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:55
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Monday thru Thursday		4:10	7:10	

Cast: Denzel Washington, Don Cheadle, Kelly Reilly
Genre: Drama • Rated R

Skyfall

Friday		4:15	7:15	10:00
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	10:00
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15	
Monday thru Thursday		4:15	7:15	

Cast: Daniel Craig, Judi Dench, Javier Bardem
Genre: Spy film, Action • Rated PG13

Wreck-It Ralph 2D

Friday		4:20	7:20	9:40
Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:40
Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20	
Monday thru Thursday		4:20	7:20	

Cast: John C. Reilly, Sarah Silverman
Genre: Children's/family • Rated PG

● NO PASSES ■ NO PASSES OR SUPER SAVERS

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www.gohollywood.com

Gotye hit is Spotify song of the year

NEW YORK (AP)—Gotye's smash hit "Somebody I Used to Know" is Spotify's top song of the year.

The digital music service said Wednesday that the multiplatinum pop song is the most streamed track globally this year. Carly Rae Jepsen's "Call Me Maybe" and "We Are Young" by fun. are second and third, respectively.

"Somebody I Used to Know" was also most streamed in the United States and most shared globally, on platforms like Twitter and Facebook.

French DJ-producer David Guetta's "Nothing But the Beat" was the most streamed album globally. It includes hits like "Titanium" with Sia and "Turn Me On" with Nicki Minaj. Guetta is also the year's most streamed male artist.

Rihanna and Coldplay top the list of most streamed females and groups, respectively.

Spotify is available in 17 countries.

AP

In this April 15, 2012 file photo, Australian artist Gotye performs during the first weekend of the 2012 Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival in Indio, Calif.

Too much togetherness may result in couple's breakup

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I'm engaged to someone I love very much. I am 36 and he is 44. We get along great, but he's in a rush to get married. It will be my first and his second. We got engaged three months ago, and he wants the wedding to be in February. The date he picked is his father's birthday.

My other problem is, he is always pawing at me. He always needs to be touching me or calling me his "beautiful angel." It's good to hear that once in a while, but not five times a day.

I love being with him, but sometimes I need my own space. If I say no, he gets defensive and worried that I'm going to leave him. We spend practically every waking (and non-waking) moment together. I am almost at a breaking point. Help!

OVERWHELMED IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR OVERWHELMED: I hope you realize that the behavior you are describing is not an indication of love, but of extreme insecurity. His need to constantly touch you, his defensiveness if you say you need some space, and his fear that you will leave him WON'T CHANGE if you marry him. I am also concerned about the way your wedding date was chosen, because the decision wasn't arrived at mutually.

Ask yourself this: If he makes what should be joint decisions, and you have no space for yourself because of his insecurity, is this the way you want to spend a LIFETIME? These could be symptoms of an abuser.

DEAR ABBY: I'm 25, have an associate's degree in health management, completed a CRMA (Certified Residential Medication Aide) course, and I'm now on my way to obtaining my bachelor of science in health management. It sounds like I'm heading toward a great future, right?

My problem is I have zero confidence in myself. I'm scared to death of making mistakes as a CRMA, and equally scared of being successful. Everybody says how "proud" they are of me and that I'm headed toward great things, but I'm not sure I can do this. I am struggling to find self-confidence because if I don't believe in myself, I won't achieve anything. What can I do to put myself out there and take the steps I need to accomplish my goals?

NEEDS A BOOST IN MAINE

DEAR NEEDS A BOOST: Self-doubt can be an asset if it causes you to strive harder to master the skills you will need in your profession. However, because you are afraid of both failure AND success, the surest way to conquer your fears would be to talk about them with a counselor at your school or to a psychologist. What you are dealing with is not as unusual as you may think.

DEAR ABBY: My husband insists that wearing a white T-shirt when out and about is the same as wearing a colored one with a design on it. I think he's wearing underwear as outerwear and is being too casual.

We do not live in a rural community. We are in a suburb of San Diego. Life is relaxed here, but not THAT relaxed. Do you have an opinion?

DRESSING UP, NOT DOWN

DEAR DRESSING UP: I do have a thought or two on the subject. If your husband is comfortable this way, leave him alone. Because you are the one concerned with appearances, continue dressing up to create the impression you want and let him dress down and suffer the consequences—if there are any, which I doubt.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Spruce lights up as NYC's Rockefeller Center tree

NEW YORK (AP)—New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg on Wednesday helped light the Rockefeller Center tree, an 80-foot Norway spruce that made it through Superstorm Sandy.

Thousands of onlookers crowded behind barricades on the streets that surrounded Rockefeller Center. A video screen was provided for those who did not have a direct line of sight of the tree, which was illuminated with more than 30,000 lights and topped by a Swarovski star.

"It makes me want to sing and dance," said Zuri Young, who came several hours early with her boyfriend to watch the lighting for the first time.

"I've heard a lot about it. I was kind of sick of staying home and watching it on television," the 19-year-old nursing student from Queens said.

The tree came from the Mount Olive, New Jersey, home of Joe Balku. Balku lost power and other trees during the storm at his residence about an hour outside of Manhattan.

The tree was taken from his home in November. It had been there for years, measuring about 22 feet (6.7 meters) tall in 1973 when Balku bought the house. It's now 50 feet (15.24 meters) in diameter and weighs 10 tons.

"It's an experience that I cannot get back home," said Freyja Shairp, a 22-year-old from Sidney, Australia, who is working in the U.S. temporarily. She said she hadn't planned to come, but was in the neighborhood.

Standing next to her was Donna D'Agostino, 48, and her 17-year-old daughter. She said she lived in New York City her whole life and decided this was the year she was going to see the lighting.

"It's a bucket list item," said D'Agostino. "I think it starts the whole season."

AP

In this Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2012 file photo, the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree is suspended by a crane in preparation to be raised at Rockefeller Center, in New York.

'Potter' star Radcliffe heads to Sundance fest

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Harry Potter" star Daniel Radcliffe has landed his first entry in the Sundance Film Festival.

Radcliffe plays poet Allen Ginsberg in the drama "Kill Your Darlings," which premieres next January at Robert Redford's Sundance festival. "Kill Your Darlings" was among 16 films announced Wednesday that will compete for the festival's top prize in the U.S. dramatic competition.

Radcliffe

Directed by John Krokidas, "Kill Your Darlings" co-stars Elizabeth Olsen, Ben Foster and Jack Huston in the story of a murder that brings the young Ginsberg together with fellow future Beat Generation heroes Jack Kerouac and William S. Burroughs at Columbia University in 1944.

The Sundance festival runs Jan. 17-27 in Park City, Utah.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Katy Perry gets a perfume deal

Katy Perry is adding some new scents to her perfume line. The singer and songwriter will develop a line of signature scents with beauty company Coty Inc., according to an announcement Wednesday. Coty will distribute them on a larger scale than the Purr and Meow! perfumes that Perry previously crafted. The company says Perry's "unique approach to music and life" will drive her inspiration. Other pop stars to concoct their own fragrances include Rihanna, Jennifer Lopez and Taylor Swift. Coty's perfume brands include Calvin Klein, Marc Jacobs and Playboy. ***(AP)***

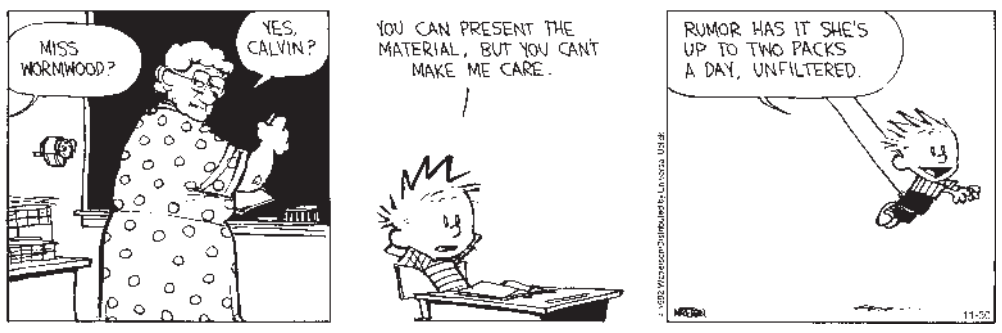
Mike Tyson to take his 1-man show nationwide

NEW YORK (AP)—Lock up your ears—Mike Tyson's coming to a theater near you. The former champion boxer and convicted rapist will take his one-man show "Mike Tyson: Undisputed Truth" on a three-month tour to more than a dozen cities, including Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Detroit and Washington, D.C. The two-hour show, directed by Spike Lee and written by Tyson's wife, Kiki, debuted in Las Vegas and had a limited run on Broadway this summer. The tour starts in Indianapolis in February. The show traces Iron Mike's rise from violent street hood in Brooklyn to a fearsome athlete. Then comes the fall—prison inmate, tabloid target, cocaine and Evander Holyfield's delicious ear. There are stories about first wife Robin Givens, promoter Don King and Brad Pitt.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


MISS WORMWOOD?
YES, CALVIN?
YOU CAN PRESENT THE MATERIAL, BUT YOU CAN'T MAKE ME CARE.
RUMOR HAS IT SHE'S UP TO TWO PACKS A DAY, UNFILTERED.
11-30

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

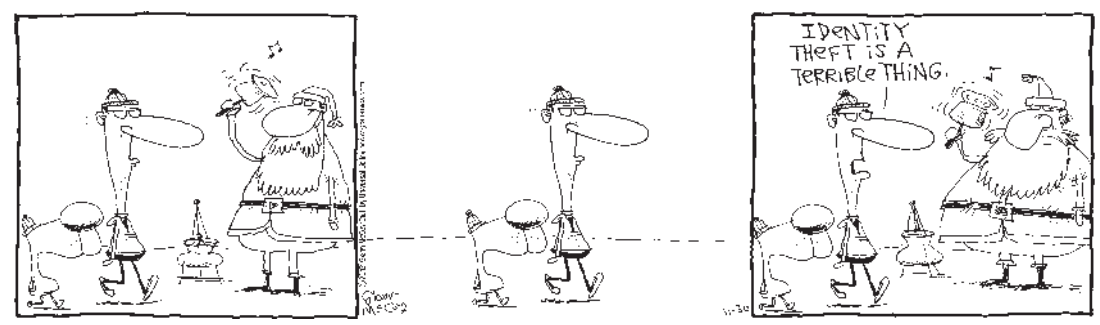
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

DO YOU HAVE TO GET GOOD GRADES TO BE A LAWYER?
DOESN'T MATTER.
NO CHILD OF MINE IS GOING TO TARNISH THE FAMILY NAME BY BECOMING A LAWYER.
WHY? LAWYERS MAKE LOTS OF MONEY.
THEY ARE A SCOURGE ON OUR LEGAL SYSTEM.
IT'S ALL ONE BIG FIXED SYSTEM, MEANT TO LINE THE POCKETS OF BACKSLAPPING ATTORNEYS.
BACKSLAPPING? LINED POCKETS? SOUNDS GOOD TO ME.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 White-water carriers
6 Zero
9 Hot tub
12 Confederacy's foes
13 Spoon-bender Geller
14 Still
15 Blunder
16 Advisory group
18 1970s band, Mott the —
20 PBS science series
21 Pale
23 Ball-bearing item
24 Venomous viper
25 Utah city
27 Elmer Fudd's weapon
29 Ink producers
31 Cottontail
35 Trumpet part
37 Mexican entree
38 Up to the time that
41 Doctrine
43 Evergreen variety
44 Midday
45 Psychotic, for short
47 Jack Webb series
49 Recipient
52 Type squares
53 Sib
54 Villainous look
55 Scoundrel
56 Train component
57 Aquarium favorite

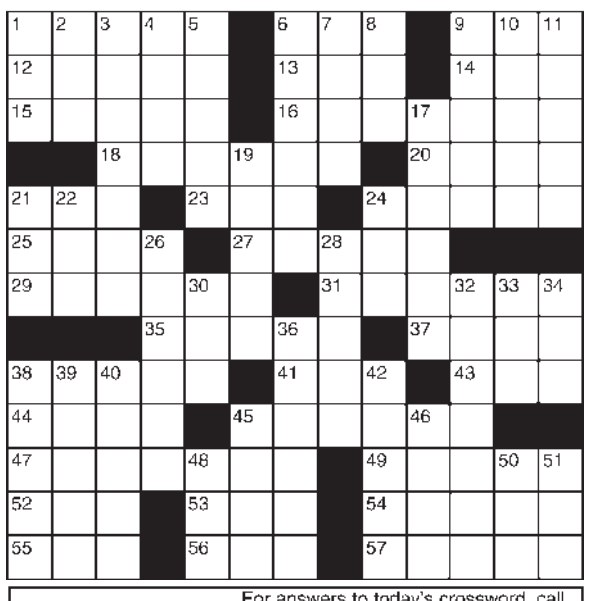
DOWN

1 Pirates' potable
2 Blackbird
3 Hosiery style
4 Fuss
5 "Beezer"
6 Centers
7 Dies —
8 Freedom, for short
9 Churchly council
10 Source of annoyance
11 Rose oil
17 Owing
19 Jeopardy
21 Go a-courtin'
22 Curved line
24 Carte lead-in
26 Not idle
28 New
30 Chum
32 Gun attachment
33 Lemieux milieu
34 AAA job
36 Champ
38 Hypnotized
39 Bellini opera
40 Drink to
42 Center
45 Anti-toxins
46 Region
48 Peacock network
50 Always, in verse
51 Historic period

Solution time: 25 mins.

S	I	A	G		P	H	D		O	P	E	N
A	R	C	O		O	A	R		C	A	R	E
L	A	M	B		R	N	A		E	M	I	R
E	Y	E	L	E	T		Y	E	L	P	E	D
			E	M	U			O	O	H		
R	O	B	T		G	A	U	N	T	L	E	T
A	I	R			A	W	N			E	R	E
P	L	A	T	E	L	E	T		C	T	R	L
			C	I	A			H	U	A		
C	H	E	R	U	B		A	P	P	L	E	T
H	U	L	A		R	O	W		L	O	G	O
A	G	E	D		E	V	E		E	R	G	O
P	E	T	E		D	A	D		T	E	S	T

Yesterday's answer 11-30



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99c per minute. touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kaley Cuoco, 27; Elisha Cuthbert, 30; Ben Stiller, 47; Billy Idol, 57.

Happy Birthday: You'll excel if you are straightforward, honest and persistent in accomplishing set goals. Showing emotions will help you sort through any pending problems within your important relationships. Making personal alterations that can change the way you do things at home and with regard to your career will result in your success. A commitment will change your life. Your numbers are 4, 10, 13, 28, 34, 39, 41.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): A change due to an emotional revelation will help you push forward with innovative plans for the future. Pick and choose your friends, partners and geographical location to suit your needs. A secret may be difficult to keep. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Associate with groups that have something to offer. A partnership will contribute to a more fulfilling lifestyle. You will learn from someone accomplished in your field. Share what you discover and you will receive help in return. Love is in the stars. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Excess will be your downfall. Refrain from making choices based on hearsay. Without knowing exactly where you stand and what's available, you are likely to end up losing. Your past must be dealt with before you move forward. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Sharing will be what counts. Getting out with friends or a lover will spice up your life and give you a fresh look at what you can strive for in the future. Love is enhanced. A partnership will take a serious turn. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Don't put pressure on others, or you may get the same in return. Find an outlet for your stress. Begin an unusual hobby, activity or travel to an exciting destination. A break from tedious work or making personal changes will have a positive influence. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Satisfaction is what you must strive for. Show everyone what you are capable of doing and you will impress someone who has something that will help you advance further. Traveling will bring positive results. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Stop worrying and start doing. You can't change the past, but you can change the present. Use your past experience to fix a wrong or to change the way you proceed now. Personal problems will develop if you put up with emotional blackmail. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't hesitate to pursue a creative dream. Your biggest hurdle to cross is your lack of belief in your capabilities. Let your talent speak for itself and let your confidence grow. You will find the success you are searching for. Take a chance. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Dealing with partnerships will be dicey if you exaggerate. Stick to basics and be honest about the facts. Whether a personal or business relationship, maturity and good intentions will determine the outcome. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Someone in a powerful position will notice you if you focus on your beliefs and your abilities. Don't hold back if you have something to say. A partnership looks promising. Love will reign supreme. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Protect what you have and say little to raise suspicion. Concentrate on your home and making your surroundings more desirable and geared toward your health and wellness. Someone from your past can make a difference to a choice you must make. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Look over what you need to complete before the year comes to a close. Spend money fixing up your place or investing in something that will ensure that you advance in the future. A promise or commitment will improve your lifestyle. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are possessive, charming, creative and intent on getting your way.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	7						9	
			7	6	8			
		2				5		
	6			9			7	
	9		2		4		1	
	2			5			8	
		4				2		
			9	3	7			
	5						3	

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 11/30

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

6	4	5	2	8	9	7	3	1
3	9	7	5	1	6	4	2	8
1	2	8	7	3	4	9	5	6
4	1	2	6	5	3	8	9	7
7	5	9	4	2	8	6	1	3
8	6	3	9	7	1	2	4	5
9	8	1	3	4	7	5	6	2
2	7	6	1	9	5	3	8	4
5	3	4	8	6	2	1	7	9

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/29

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

FOOD, CLOTHING AND SHELTER **Solution: 7 letters**

S	B	H	G	S	W	A	T	E	R	S	D	E	E	N
H	A	E	L	F	R	S	R	E	T	S	A	S	I	D
E	N	L	O	A	O	E	F	U	N	D	S	U	T	H
L	D	P	V	R	C	U	D	E	M	I	T	E	I	F
T	A	I	E	A	G	I	N	C	U	C	A	R	F	E
E	G	N	S	E	T	A	D	D	R	L	E	E	O	I
R	E	G	E	W	U	I	N	E	A	O	M	V	R	L
E	S	O	B	O	C	N	O	I	M	T	S	A	P	E
E	L	O	L	R	H	E	E	N	Z	H	I	S	N	R
T	I	D	A	L	A	T	W	V	A	A	D	O	O	F
N	F	U	N	D	R	A	I	S	E	R	T	O	N	I
U	E	T	K	W	I	N	L	P	S	R	M	I	P	S
L	C	I	E	I	T	O	L	O	Y	S	R	Y	O	H
O	I	E	T	D	Y	D	S	T	O	R	E	S	T	N
V	R	S	S	E	C	U	R	I	T	Y	E	N	O	M

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Bandages, Blankets, Charity, Cloth, Disasters, Donate, Duties, Fish, Food, Foundation, Fundraiser, Funds, Gloves, Good, Helping, Hire, Life, Meats, Medical, Money, Needs, Nonprofit, Organization, Red Cross, Refugee, Relief, Reuse, Revenue, Rice, Rooms, Salvation Army, Save, Security, Shelter, Stores, Time, Toys, Volunteer, Water, Will. Worldwide

Yesterday's Answer: Emperor

To order THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 28, 27, 26, 25, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 or 36 at $6.95 each U.S. (not including postage and handling), send a check or money order payable to Universal Uclick, plus $3 postage, to the Tell Book, Attn: Sales, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106. Credit card orders call toll-free 1-800-642-5483. Order online at www.unitedmedia.com/books. (Contains 43 puzzles, 96 clues and are 8½" x 11" size.)

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Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Find today's solution in classified section

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Automotive Service Technician and Mechanics-(3) $5.55/hr
3 years continued experience. Knowledgeable in general repair and replacement services to include: truing rotors and drums, disc drums and brakes, wheel alignment, struts and suspension, engine performance (tune-up), fuel systems, cruise control, sound systems, exhaust systems, fluid and filter service, heating and cooling systems, air conditioning systems, drive train/U-joint service, front wheel drive/constant velocity joints and specialty installations

Supervisor of Mechanics Installer & Repairer--$5.55/hr
5 years continued experience. 4-year degree graduate, preferred. Knowledgeable in general repair of vehicles/trucks. Proficient in estimating and quoting jobs and diagnosing mechanical problems at all stages. Demonstrated proficiency in supervising and motivating subordinates. Excellent written and oral communication

Four Wheel Alignment Technician- $5.55/hr
5 years continued experience. Heshbon HA710 Series Computer Alignment, preferred. Specialize in performing wheel Alignments and adjustment on medium and heavy duty vehicles. Comprehensive understanding of vehicle performance & under-body diagnosis, and knowledge of brake system, steering, suspension. Promote tire sales, provide technical service, repairs and diagnose tire wear.

Accountant/Bookkeeper- $5.55 /hr
5 years accounting experience. Bachelors degree, preferred. Proficient in Quickbooks /Peachtree software. Must have excellent communication, organizational and self management skills.

Interested applicants submit resume and police clearance at D & W Saipan Inc. office , 2nd floor of Highway Express Building middle Road. For application to be considered should be sent not later than Dec 5, 2012

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$100 Security Deposit Required
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Some conditions may apply

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- Proficient in Peachtree Software

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Room: $250/300/350 (power not included) Micro Beach Hotel across Hyatt Hotel
Room: $75 up (power & water not included) Across Aqua Resort & Hotel
Room: $75 up (power & water not included) 3rd floor of Dollar Days Garapan
Restaurant/Store Space +2800 sq.ft - $1,500 Across Grand Hotel
Warehouse/Office Living Quarter +20000 sq.ft. - $1,500 Former Box Factory in Koblerville (at the back of Mobil Gas Station)

WORLD RESORT

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPEN DATE: November 16, 2012 **POSITION:** Front Desk Clerk
CLOSE DATE: November 30, 2012 **SALARY:** Minimum Wage/Negotiable

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Proficiency in Japanese/Chinese Language (Able to speak, read, write in Japanese or Chinese). Minimum two (2) years in hotel front desk or concierge services strongly preferred. Must have excellent people skills, willingness to provide service, friendly attitude and ready smile.

OPEN DATE: November 16, 2012 **POSITION:** Lifeguard
CLOSE DATE: November 30, 2012 **SALARY:** Minimum Wage

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Obtaining a lifeguard certification may be required for continued employment. Must have friendly and outgoing personality.

OPEN DATE: November 16, 2012 **POSITION:** Kids College Attendant/Cashier
CLOSE DATE: November 30, 2012 **SALARY:** Minimum Wage

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two years experience in a cashier type occupation preferred. Must enjoy and be comfortable interacting with young children. Cheerful and outgoing personality highly preferred.

OPEN DATE: November 16, 2012 **POSITION:** Masseuse
CLOSE DATE: November 30, 2012 **SALARY:** Minimum Wage

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two (2) years experience or training in performing type of massage / therapy services. Must have a friendly and outgoing personality, excellent people skills, willingness to provide service, friendly attitude.

OPEN DATE: November 16, 2012 **POSITION:** Cook (Chinese/Western/Japanese/Korean)
CLOSE DATE: November 30, 2012 **SALARY:** Minimum Wage/Negotiable

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two (2) year experience in culinary experience. Applicants with formal training / education in culinary arts strongly preferred. Position may require employee to receive food handler related health examinations and clearances as condition to their continued employment.

OPEN DATE: November 16, 2012 **POSITION:** IT Technical Support (Graphic Artist)
CLOSE DATE: November 30, 2012 **SALARY:** Minimum Wage/ Negotiable

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two (2) years experience in computer networking maintenance. Formal education / training in IT or Design related subjects highly preferred.

OPEN DATE: November 16, 2012 **POSITION:** Maintenance Repairer / Electrician
CLOSE DATE: November 30, 2012 **SALARY:** Minimum Wage/Negotiable

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Formal electrician education or training highly preferred. Formal Training in Mechanical repair / engineering highly preferred.

For more information, please contact Human Resources Office at (670) 234-5900 ext. 576/266.

Employment application forms are available at the Saipan World Resort, Security Office, located next to the Wave Jungle Water Park. Applicants must submit the completed form and all the necessary requirements to the Security Office. Incomplete application will not be received by the Security Office.

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EMPLOYMENT

Auto Marine Inc. is looking for (1) Diesel Engine Mechanic. Must have 5 yrs experience. If interested, Call 323-2916 and ask for Adonis Santos or Leila Bais.

FOR SALE

2009 Hyundai Tucson SUV. Excellent condition; Like new; Mileage 29K; Color Silver; Sale $10,900. Call 287-7676.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $600/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

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Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated bldg., 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. $450/mo. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

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Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. $450-$550/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
S.B.S INC.

(3) Cook - $ 5.55/hr.
Minimum of 4 years experience in Indian Cuisine (Tandoori)

(1) Waitress - $ 5.55/hr.
Minimum of 3 years experience.

Interested applicants may bring their resume to Taste of India Restaurant in Garapan or email it to tasteofindiasaipan@gmail.com

CYC Corporation
Job Vacancy Announcement

Open Date: 11/30/12 • Closing Date: 12/07/12

(1) **Store Manager.** Salary: $6.00 - $7.00 p/h. Must have 5 yrs experience in managing retail operations. Chinese speaking highly preferred. Valid Driver's License required. Availability to work evenings, holidays, and weekends. Honest and Trustworthy.

(1) **Accountant.** Salary: $5.55 p/h. Bachelor in Accountancy. 5 yrs experience. Knowledge of Federal and CNMI tax laws (can compute and file taxes). Knowledge in purchasing inventory, payroll and bank reconciliation. Ability to prepare financial reports. Proficient in MS Excel, MSWord and Accounting software.

Interested applicants must have their own transportation.

Applicants may submit their resume at CYC Kagman Market, located near Kagman Elementary School. NO PHONE CALLS.

Job Vacancy Announcement

WELDER (1) - $5.55 to $6.00 per hour.
Must be high school graduate with minimum of 5 years experience as Welder. Must be knowledgeable on how to perform SMAW, GMAW, GTAW welding process, with knowledge how to use plasma cutting machine, oxy-acethelene cutting, hang soldering, or brazing equipment to weld or join metal components or to fill holes, indentations, or seams of fabricated metal products. Must be able to work flexible time.

Closing Date: December 8, 2012

Application are available at GPPC Inc. at As Perdido, Saipan. A copy of valid Police Clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete application will NOT be accepted. Skills testing may be required. GPPC, INC. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Sales Operation Manager- $5.55 /hr
5 years continued experience with Bachelor's Degree in Sales & marketing. Must have extensive knowledge on consumer products, sales & promotional planning, inventory & budget control and product importation. Must have the ability to handle overall operations of wholesale business. Proficiency in Microsoft Word programs & wholesale software system is a must. Must be available to work anytime needed.

Sales Officer- $5.55 /hr
High School graduate or an Associate degree holder with at least 3-5 years continued selling experience. Must have own reliable transportation. Ability to meet monthly sales target and must have extensive contacts in various industries. Must have extensive knowledge in Japanese and Korean products. Proficiency in Microsoft Word programs & wholesale software system is a must. Must be available to work on weekends and holidays.

Purchasing Agent- $5.55 /hr
High School graduate or an Associate degree holder with at least 3-5 years of experience. Extensive knowledge in wholesale operation, ordering, planning, shipment. Extensive knowledge in Japanese and Korean products, preferred. Proficiency in Korean/Japanese speaking is advantage. Knowledgeable in Microsoft word programs & wholesale software system.

Building Repair & Maintenance / Warehouse worker- $5.55 /hr
High school graduate or equivalent with at least 3-5 years experience. Must have extensive knowledge and experience in electrical, refrigeration, carpentry work. Familiar with picking, stacking and releasing of merchandize. Must be able to do some strenuous work with some lifting and carrying of items. Must know how to operate pallet jack and forklift equipments. Must be available to work on weekends and holidays.

Interested applicants submit resume and police clearance at Alpex Saipan Inc. office, across San Antonio Chuch, San Antonio Village. For application to be considered should be sent not later than Dec 5, 2012

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Maintenance Supervisor- $5.55/hr
5 years continued experience. Extensive knowledge in building inspection, repair safety measures and waste management. Ability to handle tenants maintenance request (electrical, plumbing, mechanical, carpentry). Knowledgeable in OSHA and CNMI environmental laws. Knowledgeable in electrical system installation in accordance with NEC and local government standards.

Building Repairs and maintenance (2)- $5.55
3 years continued experience. Perform maintenance and repair jobs on buildings, knowledge in carpentry, plumbing, masonry and yard work.

Houseworker- $5.55/hr
3 years experience. Honest, trustworthy, hardworking and follow instructions well. Can perform housework and cook Korean meals. Preferably Korean speaking.

Interested applicants submit resume and police clearance at HS Lee Construction Office, 2nd floor of Highway Express Building middle Road. For application to be considered should be sent not later than Dec 5, 2012

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Saipan Tribune

PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN

is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

(2) ACCOUNTANT
Degree in accounting required; Minimum three (3) years work experience; preferably in hospitality; Strong command of Excel and must be knowledgeable in using Epitome System; Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR
Degree in accounting is required; CPA preferred; Minimum five (5) years work experience with at least one (1) year of supervisory experience, preferably in hospitality. Strong command of Excel and Word and must be knowledgeable in using Epitome System, MAS 90, Kronos Payroll System and WebCash Management system. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) ACCOUNTING MANAGER
This is a highly responsible professional in financial and accounting position in the company's fiscal activities. Directly responsible to the Finance Director and is expected to function as such in the absence of the Finance Director. Degree in accounting is required; US CPA preferred; Five (5) years of management experience required. Strong Microsoft Office knowledge (Excel, Word, Visio and Powerpoint) skills are required. Required experience in using Epitome, MAS 90 system (General Ledger, Accounts Payable, Purchase Order, Inventory Management modules), Kronos Payroll System and WebCash Management system.

(1) AIR CONDITIONING AUTO MECHANIC
Minimum 4 years work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(4) BAKER
Minimum three (3) years related work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) BANQUETS MANAGER
This position monitors the daily operations of each banquet function to ensure a positive guest experience and will profitably manage the overall operations of the Banquet Department. Maintains all service aspects of banquet functions in accordance with the policies of the hotel. Minimum of five (5) years restaurant and/or hotel food and beverage experience required. Minimum two (2) years previous Banquet Leadership experience required. Previous experience in a first-class, medium to large resort preferred. Excellent written and oral communication skills are necessary. Considerable expert knowledge of banquet set-ups, policies and procedures. Must be able to successfully coordinate staff and resources in a high volume, time sensitive environment. The F&B Banquets Manager must have experience in budgeting and managing banquet operations. Position requires work during weekends, holidays, and evenings.

(6) BARTENDER
Minimum one (1) year work experience. Must be at least 21 years old. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) BOILER ENGINEER
Minimum three (3) years of relevant work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) BUILDING MAINTENANCE
Minimum three (3) years related work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(2) CARPENTER
Minimum five (5) years work experience as a cabinet maker. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) ELECTRICIAN
Minimum five (5) years work experience with license. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) ELECTRICIAN SUPERVISOR
Responsible for electrical maintenance, repair and communication of systems for the hotel. Five (5) years of relevant work experience as an Electrician, plus five (5) supervisory experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN SUPERVISOR (SPORTS, ENTERTAINMENT & ACTIVITIES DEPT)
Responsible for property wide sound systems and in-house video. Must have a strong background in Audio and Video. Responsible for all technical aspects on all event orders, and making sure that these areas are covered. Assist in Clubmate duties when necessary. Must be able to meet and perform all requirements of the PIC Clubmate position including meeting all American Red Cross life guarding standards. Three (3) years experience as Supervisor in similar role required.

(1) EXECUTIVE CHEF
Work requires eight (8) years progressive experience in high volume food production or catering in multi-unit restaurant Hotel or Resort environment. Experience preparing multi-ethnic cuisine is required. Must have the following: strong leadership/communication skills at all levels of the organization. Exceptional guest focus and proven positive employee relations skills a must. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) EXECUTIVE SOUS CHEF
Work requires six (6) years progressive experience in high volume food production or catering in multi-unit restaurant Hotel or Resort environment. Experience preparing multi-ethnic cuisine is required. Must have the following: strong leadership/communication skills at all levels of the organization. Exceptional guest focus and proven positive employee relations skills a must. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(3) FOOD SERVER CAPTAIN
Minimum 18 months related work experience, one (1) year supervisory experience required. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(5) FOOD & BEVERAGE SUPERVISOR
Three (3) years related work experience, two (2) years supervisory experience required. Supervises employees engaged in serving foods in restaurants and maintaining cleanliness of food service areas and equipment. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(3) FRONT DESK SUPERVISOR
One (1) year previous experience as a Front Desk Supervisor experience required; Must have the ability to solve guest related concerns and lead a team; Fluent in Korean, Japanese or Russian is preferred. Must be able to work graveyard shifts, weekends and holidays.

(4) GARDENER
Minimum 3 years work experience; Must have a working knowledge in landscaping chemistry. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(3) GUEST RELATIONS
Minimum one (1) year hospitality experience; Must have the ability to solve guest concerns and cash handling. Must be able to speak/read/write English and one or more of the following languages: Korean, Russian or Japanese. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) GUEST RELATIONS SUPERVISOR
Minimum one (1) year hospitality experience plus one (1) year of supervisory experience; Must have the ability to solve guest concerns and handles cash. Must be able to speak/read/write English and one or more of the following languages: Korean, Russian or Japanese. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) GUEST SERVICE SUPERVISOR
One (1) year supervisory experience plus experience driving large passenger vehicles are required; Must be able to work graveyard shifts/weekends/holidays. Must be at least 18 years of age, possess a valid CNMI driver's license, and pass a medical exam and substance abuse test. Must provide a traffic clearance.

(7) HOUSEKEEPING SUPERVISOR
One (1) year Housekeeping Supervisor experience required (minimum 300 rooms hotel). Motivated self starter, ability to clean rooms as required, responsible for checking up to 80 rooms per shift. Must be able to work graveyard shifts, weekends and holidays.

(1) HVAC TECHNICIAN
Minimum four (4) years work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) JAPAN SALES MANAGER
Coordinates all local Japanese sales efforts. Develops and maintains relationships with local Japanese tour companies and local representatives of Japan wholesalers. Responsibilities include coordinating all local marketing efforts targeted to Japanese tourists while in Saipan, placing advertisements in Japanese language publications, forecasting wholesaler materialization, organizing Japanese groups, representing hotel at JSTA and local Japanese Society, supervising Japanese market campaigns, conducting weekly sales calls and hosting Japanese media and travel agent familiarization tours. Prepares weekly and monthly reports. Three (3) years of Sales Manager experience is required. Proficiency in Japanese language (verbal, written, reading) as well as Japanese Office, Epitome, Japanese hotel booking systems is required.

(4) LAUNDRY ATTENDANT
Minimum 6 months work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(4) MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR
Five (5) years related experience, plus three (3) years supervisory experience.

MUSICIANS (3-pc band)
Minimum two (2) years experience as a musician; Must be able to perform music in English as well as Japanese / Korean / Russian; Need to be able to play a variety of music genres, classical, pop, rock, reggae, country etc. Must be able to play on an individual, duo and trio basis; At least one member must be a classical pianist, playing classical music during restaurant dining hours. Must be able to host events, MC events, be able to promote audience participation during sing-a-long shows. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays. Subject to audition.

(1) NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR
Thorough knowledge of all software and hardware is required; this includes all Microsoft Windows Desktop and Server operating systems, Microsoft Application support, SQL Administration skills, Access Database and Crystal Report design skills with IIS, ASP and HTML Skills, Property Management System (Epitome), Point-of-Sale System (MICROS 9700), PMS Interface System (Liaison), Call Accounting System (Winsuite), Voice Mail System & Accounting System (MAS90). Microsoft Exchange 2010 and Active Directory 2008 experience is highly desirable. Experience in the use of electronic mail (mail relays, spam filters and mail integrity) and Internet protocols (e.g. TCP/IP, PPP, and IMAP). Sound knowledge of routers, firewalls, network security, network configuration and construction, switches and fiber is required. Applicant should have in depth knowledge of PBX Telephone Systems, PC and Server hardware, new PC and Server installations, WIFI configuration and support, System backups and general network administration. We require a self-sufficient, career-minded person to provide support to our IT team. Must have sound IT industry experience (5 years minimum). Excellent interpersonal skills and the ability to support a 24hr business are also essential. A+, Network+, and/or MCP certification are also highly desirable.

(1) NIGHT AUDITOR
College graduate with major in Accounting; Five (5) years of relevant work experience. Business knowledge on the basic functions of debits and credits; Knowledge on hotel-related systems particularly on front-office systems and point-of-sale systems of the hotel industry; Strong command of Excel and must be knowledgeable in using Epitome and Micros System; Familiarity on how the hotel settlement system works (cash, room charge, credit card transaction or similar); MUST be able to work from 11:00 pm to 7:00 am; May involve shift work, including working on weekends and holidays.

(1) PASTRY SUPERVISOR
Minimum five (5) years pastry experience plus two (2) years supervisory experience is required. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) PLUMBER
Minimum of five (5) years related work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(2) POOL MAINTENANCE
Minimum two (2) years related work experience. Previous HAZMAT training preferred; Shift begins at 2:00 a.m. daily

(1) POWERHOUSE SUPERVISOR
Minimum three (3) years experience in diesel power generator operations and one (1) year of supervisory experience. Must be a certified Water Treatment operator Class 2 and Water Distribution Class 1. Must be a certified Class A/B UST operator; Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(3) POWERHOUSE OPERATOR
Minimum five (5) years related work experience; Certified Water treatment & Distribution operator preferred; Must be a certified Class A/B UST operator. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) POWERHOUSE MANAGER
Job requires seven (7) years in diesel power generator operations and repair, with five (5) years of management experience. Must be certified Water Treatment Plant operator Class 2 and Water distribution Class 1. Must be a certified Class A/B UST operator. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(5) PUBLIC AREA ATTENDANT
Minimum 6 months work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) PURCHASING MANAGER
Plan, direct, or coordinate the activities of buyers, purchasing officers, and related workers involved in purchasing materials, products, and services. Ability to use supplier / vendor metrics (specifications) and must have clear understanding of commodity strategies. Experience with activities including but not limited to supporting Engineering requirements, tracking upcoming orders (lead time) and processing custom & shipment requirements. Capability to execute and manage issues to support daily business needs. Degree in finance or business is required. Five (5) years of management experience required, preferably in hospitality industry. Strong command of Excel and Word and knowledge in using MAS 90 system (Accounts Payable, Purchase Order, Inventory Management modules) are required.

(1) RESERVATIONS SUPERVISOR
Controls all bookings for the resort to ensure high yield and profitability; One (1) year of supervisory experience, preferably in hospitality. Must be able to use Microsoft Excel and hotel reservation system. Must be able to understand / speak / read / write English and Korean. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) RESTAURANT MANAGER
This position monitors the daily operations of each restaurant function to ensure a positive guest experience and will profitably manage the overall operations of the restaurants. Will maintain all service aspects of food and beverage functions in accordance with the policies of the hotel. Minimum five (5) years restaurant and/or hotel food and beverage experience required. Minimum two (2) years previous F&B Leadership experience required. Previous experience in a first-class, medium to large resort preferred. Excellent written and oral communication skills are necessary. Considerable expert knowledge of banquet set-ups, policies and procedures. Must be able to successfully coordinate staff and resources in high volume, time sensitive environment. Must have experience in budgeting and managing banquet operations. Position requires work during weekends, holidays, and evenings.

(14) ROOM ATTENDANT
Motivated self starter; responsible for cleaning up to 17 rooms per shift. Minimum 6 months work experience. Must be able to work graveyard shifts, weekends and holidays

(1) RUSSIAN MARKET COORDINATOR
Assists the Russian Market Manager with sales activities and daily operations of establishment: Finalizes booking invoices for Russian reservations to ensure accuracy. Coordinates Russian market collateral and maintains competitive analysis on Russian travel websites. Mandatory written, reading and speaking fluency in English and Russian. Prepares month end reports. Proficiency in MS Office and Epitome.

(1) RUSSIAN MARKET MANAGER
Manages Russian sales activities and daily operations of establishment: Coordinates local sales distribution and group bookings. Develops and maintains sales relationships with Russian wholesalers and local representatives of Russian-based wholesalers. Extensive knowledge in Russian travel internet sites required. Handles all Russian media, agents, VIPs and groups. Provides assistance to Russian guests during their stay and develops promotions to accommodate performance goals of company. Mandatory written, reading and speaking fluency in English and Russian. Prepares several reports including month end reports and assists with marketing plan. Proficiency in MS Office, Adobe Photoshop 7.0, Epitome, web design.

(1) SALES ASSOCIATE
Minimum one (1) year work experience. Previous cashiering experience preferred. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

Complete applications must be received by 5:00pm on DECEMBER 5, 2012.

PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance. A copy of valid police clearance (less than 6 months old) must be attached to the application.

Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.
Skills testing may be required for some positions.
PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

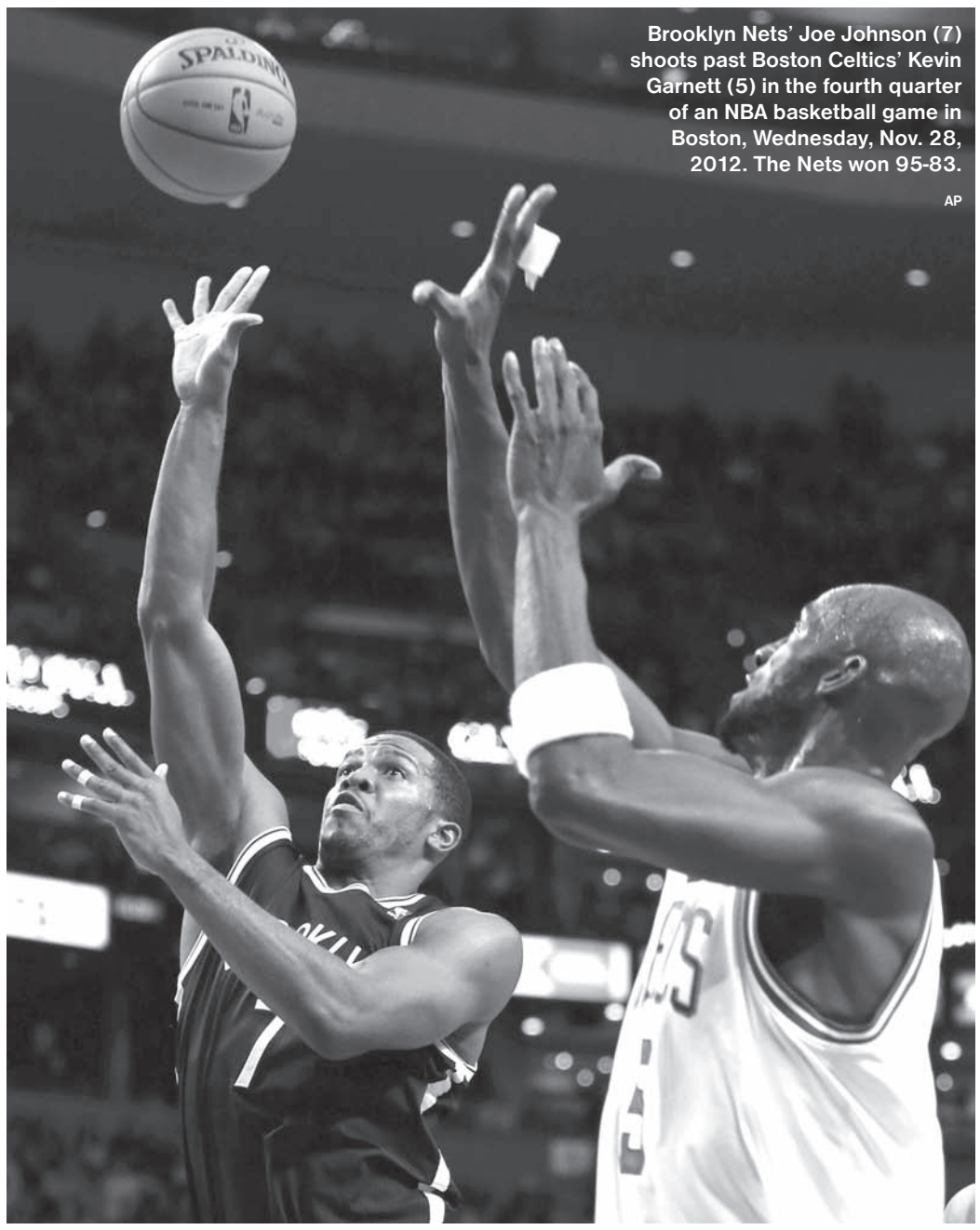
After Rondo ejected, Nets beat Celtics

BOSTON (AP)—Joe Johnson scored 18 points, Andray Blatche had 17 points and 13 rebounds, and the Brooklyn Nets beat the Boston Celtics 95-83 on Wednesday after Rajon Rondo was ejected following a fight.

The Celtics point guard was tossed after he shoved Kris Humphries to retaliate for the Nets forward's hard foul against Kevin Garnett. Humphries and Brooklyn forward Gerald Wallace were also ejected for their roles in the second-quarter skirmish.

Garnett had 16 points and 10 rebounds, and Paul Pierce added 14 points for Boston. Rondo had three assists before he was kicked out, ending his streak at 37 games with double-digits. That is tied for second-longest in NBA history.

The Nets led by 21 in the second half and never less than nine in the fourth quarter.



Brooklyn Nets' Joe Johnson (7) shoots past Boston Celtics' Kevin Garnett (5) in the fourth quarter of an NBA basketball game in Boston, Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2012. The Nets won 95-83.

AP

Wizards 84, Trail Blazers 82

In Washington, Washington earned its first victory after starting the season with 12 straight losses, getting 19 points from Jordan Crawford to beat Portland.

Washington survived a scoreless 6:47 in the fourth when Crawford hit on a 3-pointer with 2:06 to play, and the Wizards finally took the 84-82 lead on Emeka Okafor's two free throws with 39.1 seconds remaining.

Damian Lillard was called for traveling with 28 seconds left. After Nene was called for an offensive foul, J.J. Hickson missed a jumper with 2.8 seconds to play. The Wizards lost the ball with 0.2 seconds to go, but held on to end the skid.

Thunder 120, Rockets 98

In Oklahoma, Kevin Durant matched his season high with 37 points, and Oklahoma City beat Houston in James Harden's first game back at Chesapeake Energy Arena since being traded by the Thunder before the season.

Harden scored 17 points, but was limited to 3-for-16 shooting. He had six shots blocked by the Thunder.

Patrick Patterson scored 27 points and Omer Asik had 17 points and 12 rebounds to lead the way for the Rockets, who began the day by attending the funeral of coach Kevin McHale's daughter in Minnesota.

Bulls 101, Mavericks 78

In Chicago, Luol Deng had 22 points and six rebounds to lead Chicago over Dallas.

Five players scored at least 11 points to help the Bulls (7-7) beat the Mavericks for the fourth straight time.

Nate Robinson added 14 points and six assists for Chicago, and fellow reserve Jimmy Butler scored a career-high 13, including 9-of-10 shooting from the free throw line.

Shawn Marion scored 18 points for Dallas, which shot just 35 percent to lose for the eighth time in 11 games. The Mavericks (7-9), who had won 21 of 27 against Chicago, dropped to 2-6 on the road.

Grizzlies 103, Raptors 82

In Memphis, Tennessee, Marreese Speights had 18 points and 12 rebounds to help Memphis beat Toronto for its third straight win.

Marc Gasol and Zach Randolph finished with 17 points apiece, while Randolph added 13 rebounds and six assists. Mike Conley had 16 points, going 4 of 5 on 3-pointers, and Rudy Gay added 14 as the Grizzlies maintained the best record in the NBA (11-2).

DeMar DeRozan led the Raptors with 16 points, while Kyle Lowry and Jose Calderon scored 12 apiece. Linas Kleiza added 11 points, but was 5 of 15 from the field, as Toronto lost its sixth straight.

Knicks 102, Bucks 88

In Milwaukee, Carmelo Anthony scored 29 points to lead New York past Milwaukee.

Anthony, who sat out the fourth quarter, was 9 of 18 from the floor and also grabbed eight rebounds in 30 minutes. The second-leading scorer in the NBA has scored at least 29 points in his last four games, including 35 points and 13 rebounds in a 96-89 overtime loss at Brooklyn on Monday.

New York's Steve Novak added 19 points and Tyson Chandler chipped in with 17 points and eight rebounds for the Knicks, who snapped a three-game road losing streak.

Pistons 117, Suns 77

In Auburn Hills, Michigan, Brandon Knight and Charlie Villanueva scored 19 points apiece, and Detroit routed Phoenix to win back-to-back games for the first time this season.

Detroit is 5-3 since opening 0-8. The Pistons led 55-44 at halftime and then broke the game open when the Suns came unglued in the third quarter. Phoenix picked up four technical fouls in the third and trailed by as many as 44 in the fourth.

Rodney Stuckey added 18 points for Detroit. Kyle Singler and Tayshaun Prince contributed 12 each, and Greg Monroe had nine points and eight rebounds.

Hawks 94, Bobcats 91

In Atlanta, Al Horford scored 17 points and hit two clinching free throws to help Atlanta beat Charlotte for its sixth straight victory.

Josh Smith and Lou Williams also had 17 points apiece for the Hawks.

Ben Gordon finished with 26 points and Ramon Sessions had 18 to lead Charlotte, which has lost two straight and three of four.

Gordon's straightaway 3-pointer with 29.1 seconds remaining cut Atlanta's lead to 92-91. The Bobcats got the ball back, but Sessions' inbounds pass from the left sideline was ruled a turnover after the officials watched replays and concluded neither Gordon nor Smith touched the ball, which bounced out of bounds on the other side of the court with 5.2 seconds to go.

Spurs 110, Magic 89

In Orlando, Florida, Manu Ginobili had 20 points, Gary Neal scored 19 and San Antonio raced past Orlando for its fifth straight win.

Tim Duncan added 15 points in 27 minutes and Tony Parker chipped in 14 points and eight assists.

The Spurs also posted their eighth consecutive victory on the road and have now beaten the Magic in five of their last six meetings.

Arron Afflalo led the Magic with 16 points, followed by Jameer Nelson with 14. The Magic struggled from the field, connecting on just two of their 15 3-point attempts.

Jazz 96, Hornets 84

In New Orleans, Al Jefferson had 19 points, Marvin Williams scored 16 before leaving with concussion symptoms and Utah won its second straight game by defeating New Orleans.

Paul Millsap scored nine of his 16 points during a dominant third quarter for Utah, and Gordon Hayward had 13 of his 15 points in the fourth quarter to help the Jazz overcome one last New Orleans surge.

Robin Lopez and Greivis Vasquez each scored 18 points for New Orleans, which has lost eight of nine. Brian Roberts added 11 points. But the Hornets, who defeated Utah in an earlier meeting this season, struggled from 3-point range this time, going 5 of 21.

Kaepernick to start as 49ers QB on Sunday at Rams

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP)—Tight end Delanie Walker arrives at work at 6 a.m. each day, and Colin Kaepernick always beats him to 49ers headquarters.

The quarterback clocks in before most of his teammates for that matter.

With that work ethic and standout performances, Kaepernick has earned himself a third straight start at quarterback for San Francisco on Sunday at St. Louis.

"Kap's here before me. He's here lifting weights," Walker said.

Coach Jim Harbaugh made the announcement Wednesday that Kaepernick got the nod over Alex Smith after the second-year pro led the NFC West-leading Niners (8-2-1) to victories in the past two games, his first two NFL starts.

"The rationale is we have two quarterbacks that we feel great about as a starting quarterback," Harbaugh said. "Both have earned it, both deserve it—Alex over a long period of time, Colin by virtue of the last three games. It tips the scales. Colin we believe has the hot hand. We'll go with Colin. And we'll go with Alex. They're both our guys."

Yes, Harbaugh is still leaving open every possibility, saying it still could be a week-to-week decision. All Kaepernick knows is he will begin Sunday's game under center.

Harbaugh warned, "I wouldn't assume anything."

"To start talking about speculation or every permutation you could get into, we're not going to speculate on it," Harbaugh said. "We're worried about everything and we fear nothing."

The reigning NFL Coach of the Year told his players on the field at some point during Wednesday morning's walk-through practice.

Kaepernick has completed 48 of 74 passes for 680 yards and three touchdowns with one interception and was sacked six times. He has a 102.3 passer rating.

"I don't know if it's a hot hand. Whatever you want to call it. I'm just happy I get to go back out there," Kaepernick said. "It's a great chance to lead this team and show we're a great team and we can go into the playoffs."

Smith, the 2005 No. 1 overall draft pick, hardly looked happy on the sideline during Sunday's win over the Saints after being medically cleared from a concussion suffered in the first half of a 24-24 tie against St. Louis on Nov. 11.

"That's coach's decision," running back Frank Gore said. "He said before he's going to go with the hot hand, and he's sure that Kap's got the hot hand right now. I just feel we've got two good quarterbacks who can help us win. That's a plus for the team."

As the questions about his quarterback decision kept coming from every direction, Harbaugh repeatedly said, "I think I've covered and plowed that ground about as thoroughly as it can be plowed."

Losing his job is nothing new for Smith in what has been a roller coaster eight-year NFL career filled with promotions and demotions. Even after his last full game was an impressive win on Monday Night Football at Arizona on Oct. 29 that earned him NFC Offensive Player of the Week honors. In a near-perfect night, Smith completed 18 of 19 passes for 232 yards and three touchdowns without an interception. He had a 157.1 passer rating and connected with nine different receivers.

Smith bounced from starter to the bench throughout 2010 after coming into the year entrenched as the starter—and that's been his story each year except for during last year's turnaround season. He is 19-5-1 in two years playing for former NFL quarterback Harbaugh.

Smith was expected to speak with reporters Thursday, the team said.

In the locker room, players have said all the right things: supporting both quarterbacks, while reiterating it is Harbaugh's call to make.

"It's getting very old. It's kind of taking away from what the Niners are doing, all this fuss about our quarterback situation," Walker said. "(Alex) definitely didn't lose his job. Kap is just playing well, so that's what I think you're seeing right now. A lot of guys on offense are feeding off it. So we're just going to go with Kap until Jim Harbaugh decides otherwise."

Walker knows it's probably not over yet, though, as Smith very well could get another shot sometime over the final five games.

Bonds, Clemens, Sosa on Hall ballot for first time

NEW YORK (AP)—The most polarizing Hall of Fame debate since Pete Rose will now be decided by the baseball shrine's voters: Do Barry Bonds, Roger Clemens and Sammy Sosa belong in Cooperstown despite drug allegations that tainted their huge numbers?

In a monthlong election sure to become a referendum on the Steroids Era, the Hall ballot was released Wednesday, and Bonds, Clemens and Sosa are on it for the first time.

Bonds is the all-time home run champion with 762 and won a record seven MVP awards. Clemens took home a record seven Cy Young trophies and is ninth with 354 victories. Sosa ranks eighth on the homer chart with 609.

Yet for all their HRs, RBIs and Ws, the shadow of PEDs looms large.

"You could see for years that this particular ballot was going to be controversial and divisive to an unprecedented extent," Larry Stone of The Seattle Times wrote in an email. "My hope is that some clarity begins to emerge over the Hall of Fame status of those linked to performance-enhancing drugs. But I doubt it."

More than 600 longtime members of the Baseball Writers' Association of America will vote on the 37-player ballot. Candidates require 75 percent for induction, and the results will be announced Jan. 9.

Craig Biggio, Mike Piazza and Curt Schilling also are among the 24 first-time eligibles. Jack Morris, Jeff Bagwell and Tim Raines are the top holdover candidates.

If recent history is any indication, the odds are solidly stacked against Bonds, Clemens and Sosa. Mark McGwire and Rafael Palmeiro both posted Cooperstown-caliber stats, too, but drug clouds doomed them in Hall voting.

AP

Former Houston Astros great Craig Biggio speaks at a press conference about being on the ballot for the 2013 class of the Baseball Hall of Fame Monday, Nov. 26, 2012, in Houston. The All Star catcher turned second baseman had over 3,000 during his career.

Some who favor Bonds and Clemens claim the bulk of their accomplishments came before baseball got wrapped up in drug scandals. They add that PED use was so prevalent in the 1980s, 1990s and early 2000s that it's unfair to exclude anyone because so many who-did-and-who-didn't questions remain.

Many fans on the other side say drug cheats—suspected or otherwise—should never be afforded the game's highest individual honor.

Either way, this election is baseball's newest hot button, generating the most fervent Hall arguments since Rose. The discussion about Rose was moot, however—the game's career hits leader agreed to a lifetime ban in 1989 after an investigation concluded he bet on games while managing the Cincinnati Reds, and that barred him from the BBWAA ballot.

The BBWAA election rules allow voters to pick up to 10 candidates. As for criteria, this is the only instruction: "Voting shall be based upon the player's record, playing ability, integrity, sportsmanship, character, and contributions to the team(s) on which the player played."

That leaves a lot of room for interpretation.

Bonds, Clemens and Sosa won't get a vote from Mike Klis of The Denver Post.

"Nay on all three. I think in all three cases, their performances were artificially enhanced. Especially in the cases of Bonds and Clemens, their production went up abnormally late in their careers," he wrote in an email.

They'll do better with Bob Dutton of The Kansas City Star.

"I plan to vote for all three. I understand the steroid/PED questions surrounding each one, and I've wrestled with the implications," he wrote in an email.

"My view is these guys played and posted Hall of Fame-type numbers against the competition of their time. That will be my sole yardstick. If Major League Baseball took no action against a player during his career for alleged or suspected steroid/PED use, I'm not going to do so in assessing their career for the Hall of Fame," he said.

San Jose Mercury News columnist Mark Purdy will reserve judgment.

"At the beginning of all this, I made up my mind I had to adopt a consistent policy on the steroid social club. So, my policy has been, with the brilliance in the way they set up the Hall of Fame vote where these guys have a 15-year window, I'm not going to vote for any of those guys until I get the best picture possible of what was happening then," he wrote in an email.

"We learn a little bit more each year. We learned a lot during the Bonds trial. We learned a lot during the Clemens trial. I don't want to say I'm never going to vote for any of them. I want to wait until the end of their eligibility window and have my best idea of what was really going on," he said.

Clemens was acquitted this summer in federal court on six counts that he lied and obstructed Congress when he denied using performance-enhancing drugs.

Bonds was found guilty in 2011 by a federal court jury on one count of obstruction of justice, ruling he gave an evasive answer in 2003 to a grand jury looking into the distribution of illegal steroids. Bonds is appealing the verdict.

McGwire is 10th on the career home run list with 583, but has never received even 24 percent in his six Hall tries. Big Mac has admitted to using steroids and human growth hormone.

Palmeiro is among only four players with 500 homers and 3,000 hits, yet has gotten a high of just 12.6 percent in his two years on the ballot. He drew a 10-day suspension in 2005 after a positive test for PEDs, and said the result was due to a vitamin vial given to him by teammate Miguel Tejada.

Biggio topped the 3,000-hit mark—which always has been considered an automatic credential for Cooperstown—and spent his entire career with the Houston Astros.

"Hopefully, the writers feel strongly that they liked what they saw, and we'll see what happens," Biggio said last week.

Schilling was 216-146 and won three World Series championships, including his "bloody sock" performance for the Boston Red Sox in 2004.

Source: BJ Upton, Braves agree to 5-year deal

ATLANTA (AP)—Free-agent outfielder B.J. Upton and the Atlanta Braves have agreed to a five-year contract, a person familiar with the deal said Wednesday night.

The deal is expected to be announced Thursday once Upton passes his physical. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because no announcement had been made.

Several media outlets reported the deal is worth $75.25 million, which would be the largest free-agent contract in team history.

Upton, 28, hit .246 with 28 homers, 78 RBIs and 31 stolen bases for Tampa Bay last season. He will replace free agent Michael Bourn as the Braves' center fielder and provide a needed right-handed power bat for the lineup.

Upton made his debut with Tampa Bay in 2004. His first full season was 2007, when he hit a career-best .300 with 24 homers and 22 stolen bases.

The speedy outfielder's home run totals have increased in each of the last three seasons, but he has hit below .250 with more than 150 strikeouts in four straight years.

Bourn was the Braves' leadoff hitter, but Upton is not expected to fill that role. The Braves might shop for a left fielder to hit leadoff, with Martin Prado expected to move from the outfield to third base following Chipper Jones' retirement.

Young shortstop Andrelton Simmons, who hit .289 with a .335 on-base percentage as a rookie, could be an option to bat leadoff. Prado was the normal No. 2 hitter.

The deal with Upton comes only five days before the start of baseball's winter meetings in Nashville, Tenn. Upton is an expensive addition, but the big move is not a surprise.

General manager Frank Wren said after the season he would have funds available to make a notable offseason acquisition. Jones had a $14 million base salary last season and Bourn's was $6,845,000.

Wren said he entered the offseason with "a pretty narrow focus" because he only had to replace Bourn and Jones.

"Beyond that, our club is pretty solid," Wren said after the Braves' wild-card playoff loss to St. Louis.

Upton adds to what Wren said is a "dynamic young core" of players. He will join first baseman Freddie Freeman, right fielder Jason Heyward, catcher Brian McCann and second baseman Dan Uggla as power hitters.

McCann's status for the start of the season is uncertain. He had surgery on his right shoulder in October. The rehabilitation could carry into the first month of the season.

Gerald Laird signed a two-year, $3 million deal with Atlanta earlier this month to serve as McCann's backup. Laird, who hit .282 with AL champion Detroit, could open the season as the starter if McCann is not ready.

Upton's agent, Larry Reynolds, did not immediately return messages seeking comment.

Les Miles and LSU agree to raise, extension

Les Miles has a new seven-year contract at LSU that also will result in a pay raise for one of the most successful coaches in the history of the Tigers' football program.

"I'm a LSU head coach and will be a LSU head coach for as long as I can be," Miles said Wednesday. "Hopefully, we'll look up seven years from now and I'll be looking for another seven-year extension."

The new contract runs through 2019, which amounts to a two-year extension. LSU athletic director Joe Alleva said financial details were still being worked out and will be released after LSU plays in a still-undecided bowl game to close out this season.

A person familiar with the contract said that Miles' new annual pay would be in the range of $4.3 million. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because financial details of Miles' deal were not released.

Miles' previous contract paid about $3.75 million annually through 2017. He has not received a raise since 2008, after LSU's last national title, though he has since received an extension and raises for assistants.

"It is not all about winning championships," Alleva said. "It's about being in the hunt to win championships. "Les Miles is one of the premier coaches in the country and has LSU in contention for championships year in and year out. Only two coaches in the 119-year history of LSU football have coached as many years at this school and only one has won more games."

Miles has an 85-20 record since arriving at LSU in 2005 with two Southeastern Conference titles, the one national title and two BCS championship game appearances. Only Charles McClendon won more games as Tigers coach (137). The victory over Arkansas last Friday clinched Miles' fifth 10-win season at LSU.

"The coaching business is a competitive one and it is important to compensate our coach for his accomplishments and his worth," Alleva said. "(Miles) has continued to keep LSU on the national stage. Coach made a commitment to LSU and LSU made a commitment to coach."

Miles said Arkansas representatives reached out to him in a preliminary way, but he also said reports of a five-year, $27.5 million offer to take over the Razorbacks program were "not true." ***(AP)***

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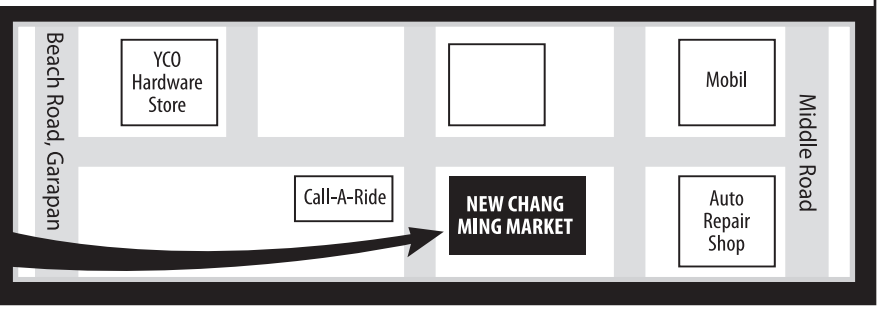

4 belts up for grabs in Trench Warz 16

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Trench Tech Purebred Promotions' Trench Warz 16: Fire Power! will banner four title bouts featuring a quartet of Guam mixed martial arts fighters coming over to challenge a select group of Trench Tech's top contenders.

Trench Warz 16 kicks off on Dec. 14 at the Royal Taga Ballroom of Saipan World Resort.

As of last Friday, Trench Warz 16's fight card lists 14 matches in total and two K-1 Kickboxing exhibitions.

The four championship duels begin with a flyweight (125 lbs) title brawl between CNMI black horse Josh "Chaos" Duenas (2-3) and Tiyan Tough Walkers' Dylan "DSP" Pablo (2-1) followed by a juicy welterweight (170 lbs) non-title pairing between Trench Tech's Ning "Bo-Slice" Cepeda (4-1) and Kintetsu Warriors' T.J. Cruz (2-1) of Guam.

Subsequent to the add-on treat, Mark "The Dark" Nuique (8-1) puts his bantamweight (135 lbs) belt on the line in a red-hot rematch against Countershot MMA's Josh "The Hedgehog" Alvarez (11-5).

Alvarez recently issued Nuique his first-ever loss in Pacific Xtreme Combat 32 in Guam back in July and needless to say the Trench Tech standout is clearly out for redemption. He is also undefeated at home, though Alvarez is also flawless on Saipan in four appearances.

Following the bantamweight fireworks, Spike 22's Jared "The Haole Horror" Mellon (1-0) will battle it out with "No Way" Jose Mafnas (1-1) for the middleweight (185 lbs) spoils. Mellon earned the title bid after bagging a pair of dominating victories in past Trench Tech events, though one was an amateur match. He has two other amateur appearances in PXC as well.

Mafnas' fight record may imply inexperience, however to the contrary, he is a skilled Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu purple belt under Eagan Inoue, of Grapplers Unlimited in Hawaii. He has also been training with Trench Tech for seven years.

Mellon and Mafnas will surely get the crowd thoroughly pumped up and after they settle things out, the big boys will step in to close up shop.

The finale heavyweight (20 lbs and up) title scrap features 670 up-and-comer Mylo "Bam Bam" Lassiter (3-1) rumbling with Guam Muay Thai's Marquis Navarro (2-1).

At one point, the CNMI's most prolific heavyweight Kelvin "The Big Hit" Fitial stood toe-to-toe with Lassiter earlier this year and the pair made a verbal agreement in public to square off this December. However, according to Trench Tech president Cuki Alvarez the organization simply could not come to terms financially with Fitial and the parties had to part ways.

Nevertheless, the other MMA bouts include a flyweight tiff, two bantamweight quarrels, three featherweight challenges, and three catch-weight disputes.

Perhaps the most alluring of the group is the return of Trench Tech bantamweight fighter "Badd" Brad Palacios (6-3) who is back on the scene after serving his suspension.

He has also fully recovered from a nasty arm injury that he endured last year in Rites of Passage 11: Onra, but will be jumping right back into fire against Guam's well-seasoned MMA fighter Jon "The Heat" Delos Reyes (7-1) of Countershot.

In addition, due to popular demand Tinian's Regino "The Kid" Mundo will be making his MMA debut against Countershot's Sonny "Buakaw" Cortez (1-0) in a catch-weight duel set at 140 lbs. Mundo, fighting out of Zeng Zung, has a good stand-up game and holds a solid 4-1 K-1 record to prove it.

Leonard "Machine Gun" Sablan and K.J. Villagomez are a pair of independent local flyweights with a score to settle and have made arrangements to settle it in the cage, making for a nice grudge match.

Meanwhile, Spike 22 featherweight Mikey Vidaurri (3-1) will be greeting Trench Tech's Jomar "Dynamite" Danas into the MMA realm. Like Mundo, the latter also decided to ditch the shin guards after prevailing in his K-1 debut in ROP 13.

The other featherweight pairings list Vidaurri's teammate, Elliot Untalan (2-0, colliding with Trench Tech's Chris "No Luv" Layuug (5-3), and Trench Tech's Vince "The Clinch" Masga (3-0) pitted against Countershot's Lloyd "Nyquil" Cubacub, while the other bantamweight brawl features Countershot's Leandro "Leanderlei" Dalalo (0-1) against "Tabi" Jay Muna (2-14).

The remaining catch-weight bouts include Tinian's Peter Cepeda (1-1), of Team Relentless, squaring off against Marianas Elite's Derrick "El'Peligro" Rangamar (3-12), at 140 lbs, and a Tinian versus Guam double-debut featuring Zeng Zung's Rino Reyes and DAT Gym's L.J. "Mak'po" George at 150 lbs.

The K-1 Kickboxing pairings include a Guam versus Guam featherweight feature between Spike 22's Ricky Camp and DAT Gym first-timer Yoichi "Rangatang" Arurang and Guam Muay Thai's D.J. Duenas in his debut against fellow bantamweight Jordan Manglona (1-1) of Zalaka.

Camp is an experienced MMA fighter with a 3-1 record, but will not be allowed to employ any grappling and submission tactics this go around. Manglona is riding high after evening out his K-1 card in ROP 13.

Tickets for Trench Warz 16 go on sale soon at Tha Trapp, the Docomo Pacific main office in Gualo Rai, and Boarderline. They will also be available for purchase at the door. General admission costs $20 per person or upgrade to VIP seating for $30.

Contact Trench Tech's Cuki Alvarez at 483-4MMA (4662) for more information.

DCCA

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Faisao has since rescinded the original and "unauthorized" memo closing the Oleai Sports Complex to the public for the exclusive use of the LG Twins.

A number of local sporting organizations such as the Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association and its member organizations Northern Marianas Athletics, Basketball Association of the NMI, Northern Marianas Football Association, and a host of others raised concern about the closings and expressed interest in learning more about the terms of the DCCA and DSR's annual agreements with LG Twins, which have remained a well-kept secret over the years.

After the news broke last week, NMASA president Michael White offered his displeasure and stated, "DCCA is certainly aware that CNMI law vests responsibility for operation and management of the Oleai Sports Complex to NMASA. Yet DCCA does not even afford NMASA the courtesy of consultation when it make secret deals like this."

Though Faisao assured that the LG Twins' yearly visits significantly do benefit the CNMI community, he didn't present any actual data.

He said the fees paid by LG Twins goes to the general fund "for the benefit of the CNMI."

"Once the money is deposited into the general fund, it becomes an additional revenue generating funds, which will be at the digression of the CNMI Legislature to appropriate once the Executive Branch submits the annual budget for a given respective year," he said.

Faisao did say that the professional baseball team pays the CNMI government $200 a day for utilization of the community fields, in addition to a pair of weekly fuel purchases as added donations, and a $56 nightly fee to light Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field and the Oleai Track & Field during its evening training sessions.

Faisao also mentioned two possible renovation projects spearheaded by the LG Twins potentially being the bullpen and the batting tunnel, though he indicated DSR's Attao as the person of reference in regards to specifying the LG Twins' goodwill donations and renovations.

Under DCCA's new schedule, NMIFA was granted time to use the soccer field from 5pm to 9pm starting tomorrow through Dec. 30, while starting Dec. 8, BANMI's Elias Rangamar has scheduled hours to conduct athletics and basketball activities at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium from 5pm to 9pm.

Tan Ko and Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan baseball dields will be available for Saipan Little League Baseball, Inc. practices weekly from 4pm to 6pm from Monday through Thursday with Saturday sessions permitted from 2pm to 5pm; open hours for the fields are also available, all-day, on Sundays.

Additionally, women's softball practices are reserved for Friday's from 4pm to 6pm.

In fact, the only days the fields will not be available are Dec. 8, 9, 16, and 23.

Notably, SLLBI's Jets have somehow already reserved the field during the Monday and Wednesday windows with the Survivors already booked on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

For more information about the Oleai Sports Complex's hours of operations, contact Attao at 664-2508.

SOLID

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only loss in the round-robin tournament at the hands of defending champion Saipan Badminton Club in Week 1, 3-7 (20-10 games won/loss). Then in Week 2, the Golden Racquets routed Shirley's/Colgate Badminton Club, 9-1 (25-5), while in Week 5 the former dominated the Berks Blazers, 7-3 (20-10).

With a sweep in its last three matches, the Golden Racquets earned a field second-best 27-12 record (matches win/loss) and won 78 games and dropped 39, counting its 23-4 (games won/loss) record against TAGA in the final pairing in the elimination. TAGA and the Golden Racquets played only nine matches, as both teams defaulted in their men's BC doubles tiff.

Out of the nine matches scheduled last weekend, the Golden Racquets only lost the men's A division as Edwin Montoya and Edwin Maratas bowed to Celso Agui and Andreau Galvez in three games, 18-21, 21-18, 13-21. The Golden Racquets went on to sweep the last two men's doubles with Eric Pena and Alvin Alvarez making short work of Agui and Panapa Paeteru in the B doubles, 21-12, 21-8, and Eydie Uy and Jordan Pangalinan also cruising past Agui and Peteru in the C division, 21-11, 21-15.

Uy got his second doubles victory when he teamed up with Jen Cadino in pounding A.J. Ortega and Lanie Santos in the mixed C doubles, 21-7, 21-17. The other mixed doubles match last weekend also ended after only two games with the Golden Racquets' J.P. Nopia and Marylyn Montano downing Ortega and Cristy Villaflor, 21-17, 21-12.

In the women's doubles, Anna Alvarez and Montano outlasted Loida Ito and Villaflor in the AB division, 21-13, 16-21, 21-16, while Janelle Pangelinan and Cheng Saturno eased past Ito and Santos in the BC level, 21-11, 21-16. Anna Rose Omori and Anna Alvarez then gave the Golden Racquets its third victory in the women's doubles after surviving Villaflor and Ito in the A division, 21-16, 20-21, 21-10.

With the Golden Racquets whipping TAGA in last elimination pairing in the Traders Insurance-sponsored competition, the latter missed the cut, as only the Top 4 squads in the team standings will advance to the next round.

The playoffs pairings will have top-ranked Saipan Badminton Club (31-9) facing Shirley's/Colgate (16-24) and the Golden Racquets dueling Berks Blazers (17-23). Winners of the semis tiffs will collide in the championship round scheduled next weekend.

RACE

From Page 36

work and sacrifices worth it," Race said.

"I will keep doing this (training players) as long as I can," added Race, who thanked his wife, Heidi, for collecting the pictures for the presentation.

Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan, who presented Race with gift packages and hotel accommodation certificate, said the tribute was long overdue for the long-time CNMI coach and player. However, the organizers and the Tennis Classic decided that it is best to honor Race during the awards ceremony of the annual event in front of the strong local tennis community.

Tan added that even the Guam tennis community acknowledged Race's commitment and contribution to CNMI tennis.

"Guam has a bigger population than the CNMI and definitely more players. But, how come the CNMI won 11 of the 12 titles in last year's NPQ? It's because of Jeff. Even the Lai brothers (who joined the Tennis Classic) acknowledge that Jeff makes a big difference in the CNMI's success against Guam," Tan said.

Right after the tribute, Race's Facebook account was swarmed with congratulatory messages.

"You deserve it," wrote junior player Tommy Choi.

"You certainly have put in the coaching time. Congratulations," Race's fellow CNMI Sports Hall of Famer Jean Sakovich wrote.

MIEKO

From Page 36

anas, as the organizing Pacific Islands Club confirmed that its hosting chores for the biggest bike race in the CNMI will end this weekend.

"I heard it will be the last Hell of Marianas PIC will organize. It is sad to hear that, as this is a great race and has been helping keep the bikers' motivation up with more on and off-island riders joining the event. The more bikers I ride with, the better the challenge for me. I will do all my best this Saturday, as we don't know if we will have the HOM next year. I am looking forward to riding and having fun with my great friends on Saipan," said the 35-year-old biker, who would like to thank IT&E, Brubu, Bike Pro, Zoot, Suunto, and Salomon for their continued support.

Carey will be competing in the Hell of Marianas against defending champion Jodie Willet only a few weeks after having a bad crash at the Tour De Tinian. The former Saipan biker fell on a deep hole on a downhill course and sustained bad cuts on her left arm and knee. Carey still topped the 100K race, but had to go to the hospital after the race to seek treatment to her wound.

"I am fine now. My injury is still healing, but I started walking and jogging yesterday (Tuesday). I am ready," said Carey, whose tough luck in 100K races started last year in Hell of Marianas.

She had a flat tire in Papago and then at Laolao, her front tire exploded. She was then forced to ride a car from Laolao to Mobil Kagman where she managed to borrow a bike to complete the race. Carey crossed the finish line before the four-hour mark in her loaned bike, but told organizers she was disqualified for riding on a car from Laolao to Mobil Kagman. With Carey disqualified, Russia's Natalia Zakharova (3:43:52.91) and Japan's Asumi Nozawa (4:38:44.50) joined Willet (3:16:15.72) in the Top 3.

Wanted: 'Hell' takers

Meanwhile, PIC Sports, Entertainment and Activities director Glenn Policare said that there are local groups that have expressed interest in taking over the hosting chores for the 100k race. The CNMI has many bikers groups, including the Northern Mariana Islands Cycling Federation, but no association has yet to step up and take charge in keeping the prestigious bike race.

Policare added that although PIC will not host the Hell of Marianas next year, they will be focusing more on events that will bring in more off-island visitors to keep the Saipan economy afloat. He also said they will still have the 50k Bike for Life event next year.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

DCCA rescinds sports complex closure order

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

After a public outcry on its decision to close the Oleai Sports Complex over the next two months, the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, in conjunction with the Division of Sports and Recreation, submitted a new updated schedule for the municipal facility yesterday, which now allows public access to the compound, albeit at specified times during the visiting LG Twins' spring training sessions.

Faisao

Just this past Wednesday after a 10-day waiting period, DCCA Secretary, Melvin Faisao claimed the whole situation was a simple mistake and apologized for the discrepancy, stating that the original notice was, "inadvertently sent with an oversight."

The LG Twins is a professional baseball team from South Korea that has been holding its spring training program on Saipan since the 1990s.

The Korean group was originally granted exclusive access to the entire facility from Dec. 2 to Dec. 23 and again from Jan. 1, 2013 to Feb. 9. A hard copy of the original announcement of the closings was never officially received, rather DSR director Jojo Attao communicated the details over the phone on behalf of the two parties. During the conversation, Attao stated he was going to send *Saipan Tribune* the official press release, but failed to do so.

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Mieko seeks redemption in 'Hell'

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

After being disqualified last year, Mieko Carey will go all the way just to finish this Saturday's 6th Hell of Marianas Century Cycle Race.

"I got disqualified last year and I feel this year, my goal is to finish the race no matter what happens," said Carey, who will be competing in her first bike race on Saipan since moving to Guam a few months ago.

Unfortunately, tomorrow's 100-kilometer race could also be Carey's last Hell of Mari-

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CONTIBUTED PHOTO
Mieko Carey, fourth left, joins winners and organizers of the Tour de Tinian in the awards ceremony after getting treatment from bruises and cuts on her left arm and knees.

Race honored in Tan Holdings Classic

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
From left, Jerry Tan, Jeff and Heidi Race, and Lydia Tan pose for a group photo during the tribute for Jeff Race in the 4th Annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic's awards ceremony last Sunday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

A teary eyed Jeff Race was given a tribute during the awards ceremony for the 4th Annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic last Sunday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

The homage started with a slideshow presentation that surprised the unsuspecting CNMI national coach and drew cheers from the crowd, as baby and teenage pictures of Race and his early years of playing tennis sporting his Chuck Norris-like mustache and wearing long socks with multi-colored stripes were shown.

The presentation also showed the different phases of Race's tennis career, including his early tennis instructor stint on Saipan, his participation in the Micronesian Games and other regional competitions as a member of the CNMI Team, his skippering of the Pacific Davis Cup Team, and his devotion to the Commonwealth's junior players, as he has been organizing local tournaments and bringing his wards to regular off-island competitions for more than a decade.

The slideshow also mentioned the arrival of a lot of talented tennis players in the CNMI, but only Race decided to ensure that the Commonwealth will have a steady staple of players who not only keep with up their counterparts in Micronesia, but also throughout the Pacific.

Race watched from the sidelines, shaking his head and trying to fight tears while the slideshow was being played. Then when he was called to the stage, he was speechless for a moment, but later thanked the organizers of the Tan Holdings Tennis Classic and the members of the tennis community for giving him such honor.

"I remember my father told me once to quit tennis and get a job. I didn't and I continued my vocation (coaching). Seeing my players go places, earn college scholarship, and beat players in the Pacific make all these hard

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Solid finish for Golden Racquets

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Golden Racquets had a strong finish in the elimination round of the 2012 Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament after nearly sweeping TAGA Badminton Club last weekend at the TSL Sports Complex.

The Golden Racquets won eighth of its nine matches against TAGA to gain the second seeding in this weekend's playoff round. The victory was the third in a row for the Golden Racquets, which absorbed its

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Golden Racquets' Cheng Saturno, seen here going for a return in an earlier tournament, teamed up with Janelle Pangelinan in beating TAGA's Loida Ito and Lanie Santos in the women's BC doubles event in the Traders Insurance tournament last week at the TSL Sports Complex.